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The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1883.

The Week.

THE selection of Chicago as the place for holding the Republican National Convention will meet with the general approbation of the party. Chicago has better hotel accommodations than Philadelphia, is more easily accessible, has a better summer climate, and is more cosmopolitan in all respects. Its superiority to Cincinnati and Indianapolis is even more decided. Saratoga is too small a place for such a gathering. If the Convention were to be held anywhere in the State of New York, this city is the only place fit to receive it. The action of the Committee in this matter appears to have been governed by considerations of convenience. It is not probable that the "local sympathy" of Chicago will have any perceptible influence upon the nomination, if indeed anybody can divine what direction it may take six months hence. Mr. Frye's resolution to change the basis of representation in the Convention was very properly referred to the Convention itself, a majority of the Northern States as well as of the whole body voting for the reference. The principle embodied in the resolution is the ideally correct one for the composition of such bodies, but it happens to be opposed to the uniform practice of the Republican party and of the Democratic party as well. The change, therefore, ought not to be made by any less authority than that of a Convention. It would be well (as the Times suggests) to change the basis of representation on the National Committee also. The advantage which Mr. Blaine's supporters derived in the preliminary organization of the last Convention from their preponderance of members from the Territories, was altogether factitious and unfair. The most important personage in the earlier proceedings at that time was the wide-awake member for Arizona, whose influence at the critical moment was decidedly greater than that of Pennsylvania, although the latter held the chairmanship of the body.

It does not appear that the Committee have made any change in the phraseology of the call, so as to "secure to the several Congressional districts the right to elect their own delegates." The call simply invites the qualified electors "to send for each State four delegates at large, and for each Congressional district two delegates, and for each representative at large two delegates." If this is the Committee's last word it has fallen short of the instruction of the last Convention on this subject. The instruction required the establishment of a mode which should secure the end in view. To secure a thing is to close up all the avenues to uncertainty. This has not been done as yet. The danger that any State will usurp the right to overrule its Congressional districts in their choice of delegates is, however, very remote. The resolution which Mr. Chandler offered, and which was adopted, ex-

tending the right hand of fellowship to all organizations which are pledged to free education, free suffrage, etc., is apparently intended to commit the party in some sense to a favorable view of the Mahone faction in Virginia. If such was the object of the resolution it cannot be regarded as especially helpful on the wider scale of national politics.

Every good Republican will be rejoiced to hear that the Committee of Arrangements for the Chicago Convention have decided that the next Convention will not be surrounded by the immense gallery of spectators which made the last Convention the scene of so much tumult and disorder. Accommodations were actually provided at that Convention for 15,000 spectators. Next year it has been decided to provide accommodation for only 3,000, so that at the outside it will not be possible for more than 5,000 persons altogether to witness or share in the proceedings. This will be a large enough assemblage in all conscience. In 1880 the crowd came very near either taking the nomination altogether out of the hands of the delegates, or breaking up the Convention in a scene of wild confusion. As long as human nature is what it is. it will be impossible for an immense meeting to carry on anything that can be called deliberation, or for a small body to deliberate carefully, in the presence of an immense meeting. Currents of feeling among great masses of men, when once started, rapidly acquire a momentum which no head is cool enough to resist, and find expression in noise of one sort or another which no voice is strong enough to dominate. Such scenes as marked the proceedings of the last Convention would, if frequently repeated, have deprived nominations made under such circumstances of all chance of acceptance by the voters, and have led to the contrivance of some new mode of getting candidates before the country.

It will probably be impossible, under any circumstances, to prevent the gallery from having a large share in determining the result after the more prominent candidates have been worn out and cast aside. When the moment comes for the unknown or "dark horse" to make his appearance, enthusiasm must tell and bring him to the front, and it will be impossible to confine enthusiasm to any one portion of a body of persons assembled in one room. Any emotion by which the delegates, or part of them, are strongly stirred, is sure to spread to the galleries, and anything that thrills the galleries is sure to spread to the delegates. There is no way of preventing this altogether, even if it were desirable to prevent it. Conventions will probably always, as long as the present nominating system lasts, have to be large bodies, and to sit in the presence of a considerable public; but there is a certain unfairness to that portion of the party which cannot go on to witness the proceedings, in allowing the outsiders who do attend to take so large a part in them. The candidate who can now bring most friends or followers into the building to "shout" for him, has a distinctive advantage over other competitors whose admirers stay at home, of which it is perhaps impossible to deprive him, but which is nevertheless regrettable.

George C. Gorham has been defeated as a candidate for Sceretary of the Senate, and a good choice made in the nomination of General McCook. This will probably put an end to Gorham's "claims" upon the Republican party. He disappears in company with his stanch and congenial friend Mahone, who had cooled so perceptibly in his devotion that, when the time for voting arrived, he was able to make only a moderate speech in Gorham's favor. He did not threaten to bolt the caucus and take Riddleberger with him, as he did a week or so ago, in case Gorham was defeated. The conduct of the Senators in the matter has shown in a forcible manner the progress which civil service reform principles have made within a few months. Their previous struggle over the Gorham issue lasted through many weeks, and was one of the most disgraceful of its kind ever witnessed in this country. This time a majority of them met the issue squarely on civil-service reform grounds, saying that, as they had passed a law establishing that reform, they could not be expected to violate it by electing such a man as Gorham to their most important clerical office. Even then the contest was a close one, for McCook had 19 votes and Gorham 13, with three scatter-

The bankruptev struggle will be actively renewed at Washington this winter, and all who have the business interests of the country at heart must hope that some way will be found to reconcile the conflicting views which have made their appearance in Congress on the subject. Several publications have recently come out which seem to indicate that the Lowell bill of last year, with certain modifications, is more likely to pass than any other. Nevertheless, it may be inferred from a pamphlet published a few weeks since by Mr. D. C. Robbins, of the Chamber of Commerce of this city, that a vigorous attempt will once more be made to introduce into the bill a feature which he has much at heart-that of punishing bankrupts wherever it appears that they have been engaging in illegitimate "outside" speculation. He says:

"A firm engaged in a legitimate commercial business, which goes out of it and speculates in other business and fails, ought to suffer a public penalty. Thus, if a hardware firm gambies in mines, a dry goods firm dabbles in real estate, a drug merchant embarks or speculates in produce or stocks, the money lost is not their own, but funds advanced by bankers and others on their notes, under the belief that they are doing a legitimate business. When they fail, the injury is not confined to the creditors; public confidence is shaken, support is withdrawn from other good firms, and workmen are thrown out of employment. Thus the ripple of one man's evil act extends till it reaches from the banker to the mechanic."

Now, what is the remedy for this and other frauds? "I say, a severe law with a highly disciplinary code. Why do you punish the man who steals your watch, and let him off scot free who buys goods he never can and never intends to pay for?" The Lowell bill, as amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee, contains a pretty long list of crimes in connection with bankruptcy, one of which is obtaining goods, etc., on credit with intent not to pay for the same; the maximum punishment for which is hard labor for three years. Mr. Robbins's idea apparently is that this clause ought, in good law and morals, to be stretched so as to cover any sort of speculation outside the limits of the bankrupt's regular business, and he suggests the novel theory that all money used in this way must come from advances obtained by means of false pretences. But why so? It may be that such is the case, and then there would be every reason for punishing the trader. The crime he commits, however, does not consist either in his speculation or his failure, but in his misrepresentation of the purpose for which he borrows the money. But, if a firm or individual, engaged in the coffee business, for instance, has some money lying idle, which, owing to the condition of the coffee market, it cannot do anything with in coffee, and it takes a "flyer" of some sort in stocks, and afterward fails, there is no obtaining money or money's worth under false pretences, nor any criminal act, so far as we can see. The risks taken may be even less than the risks in the coffee business. No bankruptcy act which involves or suggests the idea that speculation is a crime, is likely to get through

In two weeks more, the year 1884 will open, and the almanac meteorologists will lift up their voices and foretell the weather, the earthquakes, the tornadoes, the fevers, the plagues, and the dynamite explosions for the next twelve months. The Theosophists, we see, are trying to get ahead of them this year, and a member of the sect has given the Herald the straight prophetic tip, by declaring that the green suns and moons which every one has been so puzzled by lately show that "we are just at the end of a cycle-one of the smaller cycles.' We can hardly be at the end of one cycle without being at the beginning of another, and the fact is that "we are about to pass from one of the smaller cycles to another"-the great cycle-at the end of which comes a temporary return to chaos, or Pralaya. In 1884 there will be "upheavals of the sea and volcanic outbursts." This is a very meagre showing. We can add a point or two ourselves. There will be another investigation of the Keely motor; in financial circles some stocks will rise and others will fall; those which are expected to fall will rise, and those expected to rise will fall; "weak holders" will be shaken out, lambs fleeced and devoured; wolves will lick their chops over the savory morsels. In politics "dark horses" will develop into favorite sons, and favorite sons drop out because they fail to show an ability to carry the doubtful parental State; the editor of the Sun will be nominated by an esteemed contemporary for the Presidency, and will explain why the position he occupies at the head of that paper makes it impossible and unwise for him to think of ac-

cepting the place. The circulation of all papers will continue to increase day by day, although several dozen will suspend publication for want of support. Many clergymen will discuss the Mormon problem, and the divorce problem, and the Chinese problem, with the same effect noticed in 1883.

The Bostonians have escaped from what, to many of them, was the great horror of having an O'Brien for Mayor. What may be called the Irish-Butler ticket, which was headed by a gentleman of that name, has been defeated by a majority of 1,543. It is a great escape, though it must be confessed a narrow escape. Such a majority as that in a vote of 53,537 cannot be called a very reassuring victory, especially as there is no doubt that the strength of the O's and the Mac's in Boston is increasing more rapidly than that of pure-blooded New Englanders. Nevertheless, small as it is, it may prove considerable in its results, because it may, and doubtless does, mark a turn in the tide which will next year show that Butler has lost his hold on the State as well as on the Democratic party. It will certainly encourage the old Democratic leaders in their resistance to him, thus forcing him to rely, in his political activity bereafter, upon the labor organizations alone. The mere fact, however, that an O'Brien came so near being Mayor of the great Puritan city as to frighten the Boston people very much, is a striking illustration of the way the sins of the fathers are visited on the children, not only unto the third and fourth generation, but sometimes unto the ninth and tenth. It is largely owing to the sins of the forefathers of the New England people that Irishmen are Catholics and not Protestants; that they are ignorant and excitable, instead of being intelligent and sober-minded; that they have but little political sense; that there exists a deep antipathy between them and Anglo-Saxon Protestants all the world over; and that O'Brien is a more hateful or more dreaded name in politics than Campbell or McGregor.

Mr. Arnold's lecture on Emerson has furnished an opportunity in Boston for a good deal of criticism of Mr. Arnold himself. The Rev. Mr. Bartol declares that while "in. genuous," Mr. Arnold is still "foreign;" that the "critical telescope" "he brought over with him is of insufficient power to take an observation of Emerson; and that it is owing to the weakness of the glass that he reports the philosopher as a star of only the "second or third magnitude," a question for the settlement of which Dr. Bartol thinks some centuries are needed. But this is not especially true of Emerson. In this sort of astronomy, no judgment is final, and any one who can do so is at liberty at any time to revise Mr. Arnold's estimate of Emerson as a modern Marcus Aurelius. We may say the same thing even of Mr. Bartol's criticism of Mr. Arnold's telescope. If he can prove that he has a better glass, there will be a rush from the Arnold to the Bartol observatory. An astronomer who is undevout is handicapped to begin with, and if he has a poor instrument and keeps misreporting stars, and crying out: "Look! look! there goes Marcus Aurelius!" when in fact it is impossible for him with his glass to know whether it is Marcus Aurelius, or Socrates, or Plato, he is sure to be found out in the end.

The Salvation Army has met with great success in New Haven. Not only has it been investigated in court by a judge who has decided that its street singing is not a "disturbing noise" within the meaning of the Connecticut statutes on the subject, but it is declared by the Rev. Dr. Houghton to constitute a "problem," and the reverend gentleman has promised to preach on it, just as he might on the Mormon problem or the divorce problem. A problem, as we understand the matter, is something which excites a good deal of social interest, but as to which nobody has anything definite to propose, and which therefore permits of an indefinite amount of discussion in the pulpit, the press, and the "rostrum."

An attempt, it seems, is shortly to be made to test the constitutionality of the New England system of individual responsibility for town debts. In several, if not all, the New England States, private property may be taken on execution and sold at public auction, to satisfy judgments against towns. A Mr. Eames, of Embden, Maine, has lost some property in this way at the suit of a neighbor, and he insists that the proceeding violates the Constitution of the United States, as it is taking property "without due process of law." He proposes to carry the question through all the courts, to Washington if necessary. Should the courts decide in his favor, on this ground, it will be something of a legal and judicial surprise, because it has always been taken for granted in New England that levying on property in this way is part and parcel of the "due process of law" which the Constitution guarantees.

Another attempt, this time in Ohio, to try a prisoner, extradited from Canada, for an offence other than the one for which he was surrendered, has broken down, the Supreme Court deciding, as so many other courts have done, that such a practice is in violation of the right of asylum and also of the treaty with Great Britain. The case is a strong one, because the crime for which it was proposed to try the man was one for which he might have been extradited; that is, it was a treaty crime, and the State had obtained jurisdiction of his person by perfectly regular extradition proceedings directed against another treaty crime, and had sent him to jail by means of them. Nevertheless, it was held that all further proceedings against him must be suspended until a "reasonable time" after the expiration of his first sentence, when he will doubtless set all questions at rest by leaving Ohio. The same general view of the subject has now been adopted by so many judges that the State Department will probably have little trouble over it with foreign governments again.

Of the \$62,000,000 of Government bonds called for redemption in the 121st, 122d, and 128d calls of the Secretary of the Treasury,

there have been about \$59,000,000 presented for redemption within the last sixty days. A small portion of the capital in these redemptions has gone to Europe, and a larger amount has been due to the national banks, which have retired circulation to a corresponding degree. But the great proportion of the \$50,-000,000 has come into the market for new investment of some kind, and in this is to be found one of the causes of the continued plethora of unemployed money, which keeps the rates of interest down to lower figures than were ever known before. Moreover, capital still holds aloof from railway stocks and bonds. The latter, indeed, are yet regarded with some favor, as the last two months have shown, but the supply of satisfactory securities of this class has been limited. The expansion of the railway system, the intense competition, the continued troubles in the various railroad pools, and the declining prices of even the dividend-paying stocks, have made investors timid even in regard to first-mort-

Dec. 20, 1883]

Steel rails have during the past week sold at \$30, which is \$10 50 below the lowest price reached after the panic of 1873, and is within \$5 of the price at which foreign steel can be sold in this country, or, in other words, at which any protection whatever would be necessary to the American manufacturer. Of course, this is not likely to last; the price will go up again, but probably not very much. If revenue reformers by their doings had brought about this state of things, what an outcry there would be. It has, however, occurred under a highly protective tariff and in the twentythird year of the greatest protectionist experiment. Some adequate explanation of this which will not damage the protective theory is highly desirable, from some quarter.

Mr. Blaine's annoyance over the unfavorable reception which the country has given his taxdistribution scheme is explained in a very interesting way by his friends. They say he has been misunderstood because the point of view from which he spoke has been misapprehended. The whole country regarded his utterances as a bid for the Presidency, when in reality they were nothing of the kind. They were merely the reflections of a Sage-that is, of a man who would not consent under any circumstances to be a candidate for the Presidency. Anybody can see what an important distinction this is. What seems like claptrap when uttered by a Presidential candidate, becomes pure statesmanship when uttered by a Sage. We trust the country will bear this in mind in considering further utterances from the same statesmanlike seclusion. Mr. Blaine can do a great deal toward preventing misapprehension by timing his deliverances at less critical political moments. If he does not speak again, for example, till after the National Republican Convention, nobody will misunderstand him.

O'Donnell was hanged on Monday morning, as he richly deserved to be, but not before Mr. Lowell had been instructed to convey to the

British Government our disapproval of their system of appeal in criminal trials, and our desire that the proceedings at such criminal trials as we feel an interest in should be submitted to our Government for revision be fore the sentence is carried into effect. It is true Mr. Lowell did not say this exactly, but the reason he gave for our interference in the O'Donnell case, that inasmuch as there is "in Great Britain no judicial examination on appeal of the proceedings at a criminal trial, possible errors can only be corrected through a new trial, or by executive action on the sentence," of course would apply to any other case whatever in which a delegation of Congressmen or a resolution of the House of Representatives demanded our interference. The statement was, in point of fact, incorrect, inasmuch as the proceedings in any criminal trial are reviewable by the full bench, whenever the judge who presides at the trial certifies that any point raised at it is doubtful. All things considered, the request was probably one of the most extraordinary made in recent times by one civilized state to another living under the same jurisprudence, and it is the more extraordinary because it is the second request of the kind that has been made within two years. There is no patriotic American but must be a little ashamed to see the Executive conniving at or assisting in the attempt made within the last few years by the Irish malcontents, to treat cowardly and brutal murderers as objects of sympathy and even admiration.

The complaint made against Mr. Justice Denman, who presided at O'Donnell's trial, by General Pryor, on his arrival home, that he unfairly "put the halter around O'Donnell's neck" by telling the jury that there was not a particle of evidence that Carey had a pistol when O'Donnell shot him, has apparently no justification whatever. The remark was made in answer to a question of the jury when they came back into court after a long period of consultation. The question was, whether O'Donnell's offence could be pronounced manslaughter if Carey had a pistol. It showed that some of the jury believed that such was the case, and that they were hindered from making up their minds by such belief. We think it was undoubtedly the duty of the Judge, under these circumstances, to tell them that there was no foundation for it. No evidence was produced at the trial, either by the prosecution or defence, which left any doubt whatever on this point. Two of the ship's crew witnessed the murder, which was thoroughly cold-blooded. O'Donnell began shooting at Carey without the slightest warning, while he (O'Donnell) was sitting beside his wife, or the woman who passed as his wife. Carey made no attempt at resistance, and neither produced nor attempted to produce a pistol. No weapon was found on his body, and his son testified that after the shooting he went into the cabin and got his father's pistol out of a bag, and it was found on him and taken from him by the ship's officers a few minutes later. If, therefore, the Judge's remark "put the halter round O'Donnell's neck," it was because justice required him to do it.

The experience which the French are having in Anam strikingly resembles in some of its features that of the British in Afghanistan, They set up a new king last summer, after they had bombarded. Hue and driven out the legitimate sovereign recognized by the Chinese, Van Lian by name, and extracted from him the treaty of the 25th of August, by which they set great store, because practically it gave them possession of the kingdom. He has now been poisoned, it is supposed by Chinese emissaries or by the anti-French party among his own subjects. This recalls the two attempts of the British, under somewhat similar circumstances, to set up kings of their own in Afghanistan. In 1839 they forcibly seated upon the throne Shah Soojab, who was soon after assassinated by his new subjects. In the last war they set up another, Yakub Khan, but he had soon to abdicate and take refuge in their camp. In fact, the plan of manufacturing kings for the government of conquered dependencies without supporting them with a great army is a mistake, and it generally ends in failure. In India the British usually leave the legitimate sovereign in control of the dependent states, and keep an officer at his court to watch him, and a considerable military force within an easy reach to frighten him. This assassination is a sign that the resistance of the Chinese and natives to French occupation is by no means over in Anam.

It is now nearly a month since the defeat of Hicks Pasha, and none of the dreadful things which the paniemongers in England predicted from it have come to pass, or show any sign of coming to pass. The London Spectator's prediction was that within one month the French would "be fighting for their lives from Gabez to Morocco." The month has nearly expired, and there is as yet no sign of any trouble in Algeria at all, although the Governor-General has asked for a small reinforcement of about ten thousand men as a precaution. The Spectator has since begun to hedge a little by suggesting that the False Prophet's emissaries have not had time to get around with the news even on swift dremedaries. But the probability is that the emissaries are really in no haste at all, for the simple reason that they have no very important news to carry. Every additional detail received from the Sudan goes to show that, as we said at the time, the Mahdi's forces were made up in the main of bands of slave-dealers, whose fanaticism, religious or other, consisted solely in exasperation at Egyptian interference with their business, and that, having had an easy victory over a small body of worthless Egyptian troops, they show no disposition to campaign any more. By the last accounts the Mahdi's forces have been greatly reduced, if they have not altogether dispersed, and the panic is everywhere subsiding. A recent article by Sir Samuel Baker, who is perhaps the highest authority on the subject except "Chinese" Gordon, shows, indeed, how little ground there has been for the idea that we were witnessing in the late events in the Sudan the beginning of a great Mussulman revival.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

The approach of the day which brings with it so much mingled hope and dread—hopefulness over dreams of what we may receive, and dread at the thought of what we shall have to give—seems to make a few reflections on the subject of Christmas presents appropriate and, it may be, consolatory.

Christmas brings with it so many associations of all kinds, that it is difficult to guess exactly what we should think of the festival if it were simply a day set apart for giving and receiving presents within the limits of the family. This is what Christmas presents mean nowadays, for though no one is bound to confine them to these limits, they are for practical purposes strictly observed. With ninety-nine persons out of a hundred, the toil and fatigue and responsibility involved in the selection of presents for the considerable number of persons to whom they must of necessity be given, is sufficient to weary them with the task before they have completed it: and when it comes to the turn of the old friends and school and college mates-to whom in the course of the year we often think, in the fulness of our hearts, how pleasant it would be to give something at Christmas-we usually fall back on Christmas cards, which constitute one of the most precious and at the same time inexpensive contributions of these latter days to the neglected cause of sentiment.

There are two serious difficulties which arise in everybody's mind, in connection with Christmas presents-to know how much to spend, and to know what to get; and the latter branch of the subject is the one which, in the United States at least, is much the more serious of the two. Few people who give presents at all would find half the trouble or annoyance in the matter that they do, if they had once a year to draw a check for a certain amount which they could afford to spend on such an object, and hand it to an agent to distribute among the "beneficiaries." This is exactly what most people do, or did until within a few years, in the case of what they gave for charity, and there never was anything in Christendom so popular, in its way, among the best people, as a charitable subscription list. But the charitable method will not do at Christmas. You have got to give a certain amount of time and thought to what the person to whom you give your present wants. There is probably in a selfish world like ours nothing more intensely irksome than this sort of responsibility. You may, of course, to a certain extent, give your friends merely what you like yourself. This is done every Christmas by very estimable people. You may, if you are a girl, for instance, give your father one of those nice plush chairs in which you look, when seated before the fire over five o'clock tea, so pretty and picturesque, but in which the old gentleman, could be sit at all, would look and feel singularly uncomfortable; or you may, if you are a boy just growing up, with a taste for firearms, present the old man with a bull-dog pistol Or, better still, you may procure yourself a good deal of innocent pleasure by giving a present of a sort which enforces a moral lesson. Everybody who has read Miss Edgeworth remembers the story of the little

child who gets, as a present from his kind manima, one of those noble colored vases which have from time immemorial made brilliant the windows of apothecaries' shops, only to find on taking it home that it is all a fleeting show, the illusion of which disappears when the contents are poured out and the light removed from behind it. This, however painful to the boy, shows him very neatly how to discriminate between the true and the false in nature and art. So, at Christmas, every body has known of presents given as little reminders that the lives of great men are always marked by industry and application-books, when what we long for is skates and a sled; or a microscope or electrical machine, when what we have dreamt of for months has been neither more nor less than that most delightful of all gifts to boy or man-hard cash. The unwillingness to give presents in the form of money does not come really from any supposed general unwillingness to receive money, but partly from the fact that, except with children and savages, a present in this form, to look well, has to be rather larger than if we give money's worth, and in great measure because people are unwilling to relinquish the right of selecting for you what you are to receive. Alas, alas, how little altruistic the best of us are, even at the most altruistic season of the year, if we will not, in giving Christmas presents, first think of the pleasure of the receiver rather than the gratification of our own whims and self-love in giving.

The reverse of this is to be found among the receivers, who are, it is hardly necessary to say, neither more nor less selfish than the givers. Does not everybody know some one whom it is impossible to really please with any gift, simply because the person in question has not had the selection of it, yet who would still be displeased, even if that were the case, with the result? Such persons we have known among the very best of their respective sexes—the salt of the earth in every other respect, but absolutely unappeasable as to presents.

The family limits constitute another difficulty about present-giving at Christmas, which every one must feel. If the exact degree and proportion of family affection in every little circle could be manifested in the presents given-if this rule could be introduced as the latest Christmas "novelty"there would be a great deal of excitement and amusement in many a family circle over the result. But bad passions would also be aroused, and probably the festival itself would not long survive the change. For ourselves, much as we like the opportunity which Christmas affords, and fond as we are of the old holiday, we confess to sometimes regretting that any special day in the year should be set apart for present-giving. Do not most generous and considerate natures feel as to this somewhat as no one fails to feel sometimes with regard to wedding presents -that our lives would be richer and fuller and more spontaneously generous if no day were set apart at all and there were no laws on the subject, but every one gave (just as some denominations of Christians pray, only when the act represented a genuine sentiment—the desire to benefit the receiver -and not a custom covering all kinds

of hypocrisy, and hardness of heart, and selfishness? Ought not sentiment to be entirely freed from the shackles of custom? Why should days be set apart for its exhibition? Many a time in the course of the year have we reflected what presents we would make and at what odd and unexpected times; how charmed and surprised the receiver would be; how his heart would bubble over with gratitude as he opened the package and recognized with amazement how generous, how unsparing of our limited means we had been! Yet we must admit, as we have already said, that there is something which interferes with our introducing, the pleasant innovation of occasional giving. Why do we stay our hand on its way to our pocket? Is it because the fiend within us whispers, Put it off till Christmas? But when Christmas comes, for some reason we fall into the old rut, and stay the qualms of conscience by posting a card, receiving one most probably by the mail which takes our own-for it is one of the marvels of Christmas how nicely proportioned whatevery Christian receives is to what he gives.

A RADICAL REMEDY FOR POLYGAMY.

THERE appears to be a general determination to try anything which the Constitution will permit in order to put an end to Mormon polygamy. Some people, including one or two clergymen, indeed, seem disposed to try things which the Constitution will not permit, such as sending troops to dragoon the Mormons into monogamy, in the old-fashioned Louis Fourteenth style. Of course, however, the sober second thought of the American community will allow nothing to be done which humanity and reasonableness, as well as the principles of our Government, do not sanction, however determined it may be that a self-governing polygamous community shall not be permitted to exist in the centre of the Union. What is most curious in the anti-polygamy agitation thus far, however, is that the remedies proposed are so mild, and so likely to be ineffective, that, coming after the ferocious denunciations of polygamy which we so often hear, they sound sometimes a little ludicrous The polygamist, for, instance, after being reprobated almost as if he were a wild animal, is then threatened with some such penalty as a constitutional amend ment forbidding him to have more than one wife, or with the loss of his vote, or of a seat in the Legislature; as if a man who greatly cared about these things would be a Mormon at all. The great difficulty of the Mormon problem lies in the fact that the Mormon people are not eager to share in our political privileges, defy our public opinion, contemn nearly all the sanctions by which our domestic morality is enforced, and wish of all things to be let alone by us.

The subject of prevention has now, however, taken such a strong hold of the popular mind, that a series of legislative experiments has been entered on which will probably not cease until some decisive result has been reached. It is in the highest degree desirable, however, that this process of experimentation should be as short as possible, or, in other words,

that too many remedies should not be tried. In making laws about the matter, we ought, in truth, to go to the root of the difficulty at once. No Mormon can commit polygamy without the aid of at least two women, and those who wish to be thorough, should, it seems to us, go to work at once to cut off the supply of women from the Mormon community. A few years ago this would have seemed, perhaps, a startling absurdity, but it cannot be so considered since the anti-Chinese legislation which has been resorted to on the application of the people of the Pacific coast. Under that we have actually undertaken to exclude from the United States the inhabitants of a great empire for no better reason than that they worked for too small wages, and that their standard of living was low. The principle of excluding foreigners as a remedy for social or political evils having been thus deliberately adopted, the principal argument against applying it to the destruction of polygamy seems to be overturned. The foreign population of Utah amounts, in round numbers, to 44,000, out of a total of 143,963, and is about equally divided between the two sexes. The census does not tell us what proportion the Gentiles bear to the Mormons, but it is almost certain that the foreigners are mostly Mormons, and that it is through the ingress of foreign women that the institution of polygamy is kept up. There is a good deal of suggestion and instruction to be found in an examination of the sources from which the supply comes. The great body of foreign Mormons come from England, Scotland, Wales, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. England has supplied, in round numbers, 20,000 of them; Scotland, 3,200; Wales, 2,400; Sweden, 3,750; Denmark, 7,791; Norway, 1.200: Ireland, 1.300. About the character of this British and Danish contribution there is very little doubt: both the men and women belong to a low, ignorant peasant class. The same thing is true, though probably in a less degree, of the Scandinavian contribution. Now, what is the objection, constitutional or other, to preventing absolutely the entrance into the Territory of atien women of this class for as long a period as may be necessary to reduce the supply so low that polygamy would perish through the mere lack of materials? The enforcement of such legislation, too, would be very simple. No disguise is possible for foreign female immigrants. The points at which they could enter the Territory are not numerous. The women who are already in the Territory, whether native or foreign, can easily be registered and identified; from all others passports might be exacted and expulsion follow the failure to produce them, in any case in which the frontier had been passed without detection.

All this, we admit, sounds a little grotesque, but the whole Mormon question is grotesque. Nothing can be odder than that the American people, considering what its history and antecedents have been, should, in the hundredth year of the national existence, be puzzling over the best mode of getting rid of a polygamous community living under a sacerdotal government. In dealing with such a community many of our most cherished political habits and traditions have necessarily to be

cast aside. A polygamous Mormon household is a thing of itself so archaic and un-American that it cannot be got rid of by modern American remedies. The treatment of it has to be, as it is itself, somewhat Oriental. In short, we must tell a man who wants too many wives that we will not let him have any women.

THE JUDGE AND HIS DRESS.

The suggestion made by the Bar Association, or some of its members, that the judges of the Court of Appeals should, on taking possession of their new court-room in the Capitol, adopt robes as their regular costumes, does not seem to attract much hostility in any quarter. Even the Sun, which can smell a monarchist as far as most papers, declares, after pondering the matter for some time, that a costume that has always been worn by the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States is hardly open to criticism on the score of being undemocratic. This is itself, a good sign for those who have this little piece of aesthetico-judicial reform in hand, inasmuch as the great obstacle in the way of introducing any official costume for any class in the United States is the feeling that, innocent as it may look, it is really an "entering wedge" of the monarchists-a party which is, of course, all the more dangerous in a republic like ours because it does not avow its objects, or ever call any primaries, or mass-meetings, or hold conventions, or set up a press, but apparently consists of a number of wealthy people who like Europe more than they do their own country, and are therefore presumably engaged in a plot to substitute European for our own institutions. To judge by the sort of conversation in which American monarchists indulge, when they are quite safe and alone, it would be just like them to begin to undermine the Constitution by agitating for a return to the custom of the President's wearing ruffles, and addressing Congress in person, or to the judges going on circuit in a coach-and-four instead of by rail, or any other quaint little bit of social bric-à-brac of this sort. When liveries were first put on American footmen, when the railways and the post-office first adopted a uniform, the anti-monarchist press of the United States was quick, if we remember right, to sound the cry of alarm, and expose the nature of the designs which lay behind the appar ently innocuous innovation. It is therefore very satisfactory to find a Republican organ like the Sun frankly admitting that republics after all are not overthrown in this way. and that, therefore, the bench of judges listening to points and authorities brought to their notice by counsel, though it may be more impressive, will certainly not be any fuller of peril to our institutions if the judges are clothed in long black gowns, instead of the ordinary sack or frock coat of the citizen.

The modern judge's costume is part and parcel of the modern judge, and the only objection that we can think of to the proposed change is that in the Court of Appeals more dignity and impressiveness are bardly needed, and that in the courts where these qualities are often sadly lacking—in this city, for

instance-there would be small chance of gowns being adopted or of their having much effect if they were adopted. We have known, for instance, a good deal of trouble among some New York entertainers of a visiting lawyer caused by his expressing a desire to see a New York police court. When they thought of the magistrate whom the guest would not only see, but with whom he would probably be invited to sit upon the bench; when they thought, too, of the general want of decency and decorum he would be likely to witness, the jocular and even burlesque tone given to the proceedings by the judge, and the indifferent and reckless routine by which the cases would be disposed of, they were in a good deal of a quandary as to what they had better do, and it was finally suggested in despair, and to save the credit of our institutions, that the visitor might be taken into the United States Circuit Court, and be informed that this was what corresponded to a police or magistrate's court in other countries.

As a general rule, American State courts of last resort are dignified bodies as it is, because they do not engage in the trial of cases. The judges merely sit and hear arguments upon " points." Beyond the enforcement of a few simple rules, which are generally matters of routine, as to length of time occupied in argument, the right to open and close, etc., they have nothing to do, and need not open their lips. Even their decisions are generally "handed down," not read; and while hearing cases they are not even called upon to ask questions of counsel. We have never heard the Court of Appeals complained of for want of dignity. It is in courts which not only engage in deciding points of law or fact reserved from a trial, but sit, with or without juries, to try cases, that the absence of dignity, decorum, and sometimes decency is most noticeable, because it is in them that the hottest passions are aroused; clients, witnesses, and their friends being all present and full of fight. To preserve order and dignity in a court-room of this kind is a serious matter for any judge, and it is the misfortune of our system of electing judges that to preserve his popularity and keep on the bench the judge is always made to feel that he must keep on the safe side of everybody; every one in court who is fighting before him having a voice in saying whether he shall stay on the bench. That a long gown would give a judge of a trial-court under these circumstances a sort of Dutch courage to maintain, in some cases, a greater degree of dignity, may possibly be. But the reformers who have taken the matter up ought not to overlook the fact that it is such courts as the Supreme, the Superior, the City, the Police Courts-that is, trial-courts all over the country-which need all the aid that clothes can give them, far more than such a tribunal as the Court of Appeals.

BARRISTERS AND ATTORNEYS IN ENG-LAND.

London, December, 1883.

WE are interested to perceive by your newspapers that the visit of the Lord Chief Justice has revived in the United States the consideration of the respective merits of the English and American systems of the organization of the legal profession. The matter well deserves to be weighed; but those who on your side suppose that Lord Coleridge, or any other single person, however influential, could bring about any change in our English arrangements, are mistaken, for those arrangements are deeply rooted in the customs of the country. I am not assuming that Lord Coleridge has been convinced of the superiority of the American plan; but even if he were, and if all the eminent judges and barristers who have this year visited the United States agreed in such an opinion, we should still be a long way from altering a system which has so intertwined itself with the habits and thoughts of our people.

Your readers probably know that in England the barrister has the sole right of audience in all the Superior Courts-that is to say, in the High Court of Justice, the Court of Appeal, the House of Lords, and the Privy Council-as well as in the old local courts of record, some of which still survive. His services are supposed to be purely honorary, and therefore he cannot be sued for negligence in the conduct of legal business, however serious the loss which his negligence may cause to his client, while for the same reason he cannot recover his fees by process of law, not even if he has made an express bargain regarding the remuneration to be given him. He is not permitted to enter into a partnership either with an attorney or with another barrister, nor does he receive business direct from a client, but only (with certain not very important exceptions) through the intervention of an attorney. His position is, therefore, both worse and better than that of an American lawyer-worse, in that he depends entirely upon the favor of the attorneys, and cannot get on except by being known to them; better, in that he is supposed to have a somewhat higher social status, is not liable to pay damages for any mistakes he may commit, and is relieved from some of the more troublesome parts of a lawyer's duties. Among these last must be reckened the getting up of a case for trial, examining accounts, inspecting documents, collecting evidence, seeing the witnesses.

American lawyers find it hard to understand how a case can be properly conducted in court by a counsel who sees the witnesses for the first time when they step into the box. They fancy that he must find it difficult to examine them properly, must omit some material points and stray on to dangerous ground by putting questions which had better have been let alone. They conceive that there must be considerable loss of time, waste of power, and general risk of inaccuracies and mistakes when the collection and presentation of a large mass of facts are divided between two sets of persons-a firm of attorneys and a senior and junior counsel. These difficulties are much less felt in English practice than any one unfamiliar with it could suppose : partly because they apply equally to both sides in a contested case, partly because our counsel acquire a practical dexterity in handling witnesses which enables them to guess pretty correctly what it is safe and what it is unsafe to ask a witness. Sometimes, no doubt, there is a miscarriage of justice, but there are also advantages in having the case presented by a person who brings a fresh mind to it, and who has not become too much identified with the client and the client's ideas and feelings, as a zealous attorney is apt to be. Even supposing, however, that the American plan is better calculated to bring the whole matter fairly before the court, and admitting that it ought to be more economical of money and time than the English, it by no means follows that it is likely to supersede that which has been so long established among us. Let me attempt to indicate the obstacles to a change.

There are three classes of persons by whose exertions a change might be brought about—the public, the attorneys, the barristers. Is any of these three classes likely to desire the fusion of the two branches of the legal profession into one, or, if it has such a desire, likely to be able to effect it!

The public can of course do what it likes, for England is a free country. But the public does not understand the matter. It is, and with good reason, afraid of the law and the lawyers, for a man has to pay very dear with us for any dealings in that quarter. Our system of procedure and the means of setting it in motion are still so complicated that few people know exactly how business is divided between the attorney and the barrister, or could estimate the advantages of uniting their functions in one person. A lay reformer, a man who attacks the matter from outside, would be apt to be tripped up somehow by the lawyers, who would expose his ignorance of technicalities. And the gain to the community is one which seems, to the mind of an ordinary man, too remote to be worth fighting for. You could not get up any political excitement about it, or put pressure on members of Parliament to vote for it.

As regards the attorneys (or, as they are now more frequently called, the solicitors) the case is different. Not only do they know all about the matter, but they have a distinct interest in placing themselves on a level with the bar, for by doing so they would not only improve their status (though the line between the two branches is far less marked than formerly), but would obtain access to larger incomes, more opportunities of distinction, and to the highest judicial office. (An individual attorney can of course become a barrister, but to do so he must cease to be an attorney, and lose several years in the process.) Stimulated by this prospect, several active and ambitious men among the attorneys have of late years mooted the question, and endeavored to bespeak the sympathy of their brethren for their demands. But the profession as a whole does not respond. Those who are now in practice feel that success might not be attained in time enough to make a difference to themselves, and have too little corporate spirit to care for benefiting their successors. Many, probably most of them, are pretty well satisfied with things as they are. They know their own work, and do not seek to have that of the barrister thrown upon them. If the profits of their occupation never rise to such large amounts as those of the most famous leaders of the bar, failure is less common in proportion among them than among barristers, a great number of whom never make an income and quit the profession in disgust. They are a more conservative class, especially in all legal matters, than any other class in conservative England, and they consider that things have gone on excellently heretofore. Moreover, many of the more prosperous among them have started a brother, or a son, or a sonin-law as a barrister, and by employing him to do their court work they serve their family and personal interests just as well as if they were themselves barristers and he their partner. On the whole, therefore, there is little prospect of a strong agitation among the solicitors.

As respects the bar, they have no motive for seeking a change. Some of them may think it would benefit the public, but more will conceive that it would injure themselves. Apart from all selfish grounds, many barristers believe that the honor and dignity of the bar, the character of its members for probity and purity,

could not be so easily maintained if it were swallowed up in the much larger mass of solicitors. As a comparatively small body, centralized in London (for seven-eighths of the practising barristers reside there), it can be made amenable to rules of professional etiquette, which serve to keep it out of temptations that are daily increasing as the bribes which wealth can offer for unprofessional conduct are always growing larger. The solicitors are, as a rule, respectable men, and any grave dereliction from duty among them is pretty promptly dealt with and punished by the judges, on the application of their central organization, the Incorporated Law Society. But they are removed from direct contact with the courts by the right of the barristers to exclusive audience, and they have much less direct power in Parliament, and through Parliament on politics, than have the barristers. It is, therefore, argued that both the judiciary and the legislature can be more easily preserved from the assaults of rich and unscrupulous men or cliques, if two sets of persons, first the barrister and then the attorney, are interposed between the courts and Parliament, on the one hand, and the dangerous influences on the other. It is also argued that it is easier to maintain a high level of professional learning and sagacity among the comparatively small number of leading barristers than it would be if the business which they conduct were scattered through the much greater number of persons who would probably share it were the distinction between the two branches removed.

These arguments may seem speculative and far-fetched. They are used by persons of a speculative turn of mind, because the proposal to fuse the two branches has not yet entered the arena of practical politics. Were it now raised, it would encounter much opposition from the barristers, who are strongly entrenched in English society. It would have little chance of being carried at present. But the process of democratizing our political institutions, which is going on fast, and seems likely to go on still faster, will involve sooner or later a democratization of other institutions likewise, and then the dislike of privileged classes, and the tendency towards what is called simplicity and equality, will threaten the pretensions of the bar. Nor must it be forgotten that there is among our people a sullen, silent discontent with the expensiveness of law, which makes wise men prefer injustice to litigation. If once the public are persuaded that the abolition of bar privileges would lead to the cheapening of all kinds of legal business, they would begin to desire it and insist on baving it. Whether the experience of America proves that such a cheapening would really result, is a point on which we are still insufficiently informed. In New York, at any rate, we are told that litigation is as costly as in London.

AN ENGLISH LAWYER.

THE GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND.

DUBLIN, December 1.

THE interests and events of every day so forcibly claim attention, that we are too much tempted to devote our time to their consideration. But the province of correspondence such as this should be rather to give the causes which underlie passing incidents and developments. I therefore propose briefly to draw the attention of your readers to the Government of Ireland, general and local.

The Government of Ireland is practically in the hands of a Lord Lieutenant and Chief Secretary, appointed by the Ministry in England, and retiring from office with them. These two governors are assisted by a Privy Council of 52 members. This Council, whose numbers are less ened from time to time by deaths, and kept up by the retention upon its roll of past Chancellors and Chief Secretaries, and certain of the judges, is permanent in its constitution and traditions. Its deliberations are private. The staff through which it works, from the Under Secretary downward, is also permanent. Liberal and Conservative ministers may rotate in office and send over their Lord Lieutenants and Chief Secretaries, but the instruments by which these men work, the persons through whom they are likely to be advised as to the condition and wants of the country, continue permanent. The Under Secretary, Thomas H. Burke (an Irish Catholic), so foulty assassinated by the Invincibles, practically held the strings of Irish administration in his hands through many ministries. The Privy Council of Ireland consists at present of the Prince of Wales and Duke of Cambridge, the Protestant Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin, the Lord Chancellor, fifteen noblemen from Dukes to Lords, fifteen past Chief Secretaries, Lord Chancellors, etc., fourteen judges and law officers of the Crown, two past and one present commanders of the army in Ireland. You may suppose Ireland is rid of Mr. Forster, perhaps the most unpopular British official in Ireland in our time. Not at all. He is still in the Irish Council, and, whatever the etiquette may be, he has as much right to advise and vote as Mr. Trevelyan himself. The judges and law officers have thus the administration of laws and regulations and the ordering of prosecutions and proclamations; and are supposed to be able to decide fairly as to bringing individuals and societies within the cognizance of the law, and then, with unbiassed minds, to sit in judgment upon them. The judges who, without the intervention of a jury. relegated Mr. Davitt and Mr. Healy to six months' imprisonment last spring, were members of the Council which must have approved and ordered their prosecution.

The Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council. through the Commander of the Forces, regulate the movements of the troops in Ireland-Through an Inspector General they direct the army of 12,000 armed police. Through a "Local Government Board" of three persons they control the Poor-law guardians. Through a "Board of Public Works" of three persons they control the management of public works and public loans. Through a "Prisons Board" of two persons they control the prisons. Through a "Board of National Education" they to a considerable extent control Irish education. Through a paid "resident magistracy" they control the justices of the peace, the magistracy upon which in most other English-speaking countries is thrown the sole administration of the local laws. These justices of the peace are appointed by the Lord Chancellor, of course with the Lord Lieutenant's approval, upon the recommendation of the noblemen, Lords Lieutenants of counties. The magistracy is almost entirely Protestant. (I cannot lay my hands at present upon the Parliamentary return in which their religious professions are set forth That such returns are freely granted is an earnest that the Government does not object to light being let in on such questions.) The Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council, through "boards," control Drainage, Fisheries, Surveys, Petty Sessions Clerks, Lunatic Asylums, Dublin Hospitals, Endowed Schools, Charitable Donations, Public Records, Loan Funds. General Registry, Statistics, etc., etc., etc. You can imagine what an army of officials is necessary for such a system of control. It is officered in its higher ranks largely by army officers, by English and Scotch, mostly Protestants, and by a few Irish, shading down into a rank and file of Irish Catholics in those grades where it is to be presumed the Government does not think it necessary that great dependence need be placed. All the really important offices are held by Protestants-the Lord Lieutenant, his Private Secretary and Assistant Secretary, the Chief Secretary (who is also President of the Local Government Board), the Under Secretary, the Commander of the Forces, the Vice-President and Secretary of the Local Government Board. the Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Works, the Secretary of the Post-office, the head of the Criminal Investigation Department, the Inspector-General and Deputy Inspector-General, who command the constabulary. I think I am correct in stating that all these gentlemen are also English or Scotchmen. I do not say that Catholics and Irishmen are deliberately excluded from this army of Castle officialism which governs Ireland. So far as the magistracy is concerned, I have reason to know that in some parts of the country, at least, every effort has been made to put on every eligible Catholic. I know many Catholic magistrates who cannot have been chosen for any other reason but that they are Catholic.

It is, however, striking, and suggestive of the incubus which has hitherto weighed on the advance of Catholic Ireland, that for the most part Protestants are by Government considered best fitted for offices of trust under the state in Ireland. The tightest hand is kept over this army of officials, and the action of their relations and of their families and friends regarding pub" lic affairs is largely influenced. From the moment a man enters the Government service in Ireland he and his relatives who are seriously interested in his advancement, are bound over at least to neutrality on public affairs. An Anthony Trollope, addressing public servants in Ireland on their duties as citizens, would not be tolerated for a moment; unless in a dilettante literary way, an Irish Government employee must be careful how he speaks of Ireland. Mr. Fottrell's case was strikingly in point. A solicitor in good practice, of unimpeachable character, of warm Irish sympathies, he accepted the post of solicitor to the Land Commission mainly, it is to be believed. from a desire efficiently to work the Land Bill for the benefit of his country. He had however, the temerity to issue from his office a pamphlet urging upon the Irish farmers to avail themselves of the benefits of the act, partly upon the ground that it was the crowning of the work initiated by Parnell and Davitt; and was thereupon compelled to abandon his situation and resume his private practice. I know of but one official who, while a loyal subject, and loyally serving the Government, holds independent opinions upon Irish politics, and he dares not declare them openly, and runs considerable risk in expressing them at all. Besides official, constabulary, and civil Government employees, there are in Dublin alone nearly 400 military officers in permanent residence and employ. The Lord Lieutenant, the Chief Secretary, the Privy Council, and these Boards of course work within powers given by acts of Parliament. They are. however, under coercion acts of one kind or another, generally in force in Ireland, practically supreme; and we all know to what extent the effect of laws depends upon their administration.

There was no malevolent design in this scheme of government. It was inspired to a considerable extent by a desire to save the Catholic majority from being trampled upon as it was of old by the Protestant minority. The Government, unable or afraid because of its dependence upon British Protestant feeling, to let the Catholics take care of themselves, has sought to manage almost everything itself. Understand that

this system, as a rule, works absolutely independently of public opinion in Ireland. As a speaker put it the other day, "What would be thought of a Governor of England, or say of a Prime Minister, who could not only not be returned to Parliament by English constituents, but who would not dare to show his nose before a public meeting in the country except when guarded by soldiers or military police; . Privy Council, not one of whom, from Earl Spencer down to the lowest on the list, would have a ghost of a chance in eight out of every ten Irish constituencies, even with our present limited franchise, against the humblest follower of Mr. Parnell !" liked a man may be by the mass of the Irish people, be can find no place in that system through their confidence. However hated and unpopular, he is sustained in his position so long as he is considered a useful instrument. The good will of those who pay him is of little account to an Irish Government official. The other day I heard a Government official publicly declare in a street car that, "If we Irish were swept into the sea by England there was not another nation but would say she did right." I have before me a book entitled 'Pictures from Ireland,' by Terence Mc Grath, which, after appearing in an English society journal, was published in a collected form in 1880. In a series of papers on "An Irish Landlord of the Old School," " A Parish Priest, "An Agitator," "A Home Ruler," "An Orangeman," " A Successful Shopkeeper," every phase of Irish country life is reviewed in an arrogant and contemptuous spirit. All right and proper, perhaps, as holding up a magnifying mirror to our faults and shortcomings. But it was scarcely soothing to our feelings that the author should, shortly after the publication, be appointed a paid Government magistrate, to rule with almost despetic power over the very people he professed to despise, Let me now cite an instance in the opposite direction. There is no physician in Dublin more beloved by the poor than Dr. J. E. Kenny. During a smallpox epidemic be was known bimself to have carried patients recking with the disease into hospital. He was physician to one of the large Dublin Foor-law Unions. He joined the Land League agitation, and was thrown into prison "on suspicion" by Mr Forster. This might have been necessary for the time; but it was neither wise nor just to seek permanently to injure him or any man against whom no offence had been proved. The Government, however, thought differently, and issued an order to the Union to dismiss him and appoint another physician, thereby not only depriving him of his salary, but of his ultimate right to pension. There was a great outcry, the guardians protested, but all to no purpose; he was dismissed. The feeling, however, was so strong that even the Government had upon his release to yield and permit his reinstatement. The "Castle" gained nothing but a show of its power, and the people were irritated by their impotence to sustain a man whom they loved and trusted.

Let us now inquire to what extent Irish public opinion affects the details of Irish government. A restricted constituency (without doubt soon to be enlarged upon the English model) sends to Parliament, which controls the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council, a number of Irish members about in proportion to the population of Ireland. While these members are from their small number powerless effectively to influence Parliament, they can inquire into all branches of the administration and worry the Government with questions to any extent. As the Imperial Parliament seek to arrange everything in Ireland, to leave no buffers be-

tween itself and the daily life of the Irish people, it has to answer for everything here. We have the extraordinary spectacle of a legislature which a century ago had enough to do to look after British affairs, at present, in addition to dealing with increased social wants and increasing complications of government, besides the responsibility of ruling one-fourth of the human race in India and dependencies in other parts of the globe, taking upon itself all the humblest and minutest concerns of Ireland. When we consider how the time of such a Parliament might be employed, it is indeed pitiable to contemplate how it is often wasted on trifling details. Anglophiles proudly liken its action to that of a steam hammer, which can alike crack a nut and forge an anchor. But who would think of keeping a steam-hammer occupied cracking nuts? Take up any newspaper during the sittings of Parliament, turn to the proceedings of the House of Commons, and see how the time is wasted. I have taken up, absolutely at random, the journal for the 30th of last July. Among some score of questions relative to Irish details, which must have taken an hour or some hours to make and answer, in addition to English, Scotch, and Imperial questions, I find the following: Relative to the seizure by a sheriff's officer at Kinsale of a bed-room; the closure of a school at Mungret in County of Limerick; the promotion out of order of certain magistrates; the removal of a police but from one part of Clare to another; the number of Lord Cloncurry's bailiffs: proceedings at a certain petty sessions meeting in Derry; dilapidation of a house in Longford; certain drainage at Scariff; why a constable was removed from one part of Ireland to another. And is it not deplorable that after weeks and months of Parliamentary business interspersed with such small considerations, questions like the Indian budget, upon which the welfare of millions may largely depend, are shuffled through in a few hours? It is perhaps worth the consideration of business men whether it might not be possible to institute some system of government by which the Imperial Parliament would be relieved of local and petty details, and under which a common flag and Empire would not be associated with pettifogging and irritating interference with parish and county government.

I must reserve some information regarding the representative institutions of Ireland, county, poor-law, and urban, for another letter.

Correspondence.

OTHER-WORLDLINESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Is not Dr. Phelps (in his 'English Style in Public Discourse,' noticed in the Nation, No. 962) out in ascribing to Lowell the invention of "other-worldliness"? If my memory serves me—and I think it is not here at fault—I first came across the word in Coleridge (in the 'Table Talk,'I believe, but I haven't it at hand as I write) nigh fifty years ago. Surely the inventor of a word that so felicitously fills a gap in the vocabulary of the English language ought to have the credit of the invention.

EASTON, MD.

E. J. STEARNS.

DECAY OF SPRUCE IN THE ADIRON-DACKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Apropos of your recent article on "The Adirondack Forest," there is a danger now men-

acing, and even upon, the Adirondack forests much more serious than the lumbering you fear (though that has been going on in a large way for certainly thirty years past), in the gradual dying out, from some unexplained cause, of the spruce timber. In one of the large untouched tracts in Essex County, where the proportion of spruce is great to the other timber, I was unable last summer to find one tree in twenty alive, and what few there were not dead showed promise of speedy dissolution. I was told by men familiar with the county that this state of things existed, in a somewhat modified form, throughout a greater part of the Adirondack region. This dead spruce will, in the course of a year or two, become worthless, commercially, through the attacks of the worms; and if the dying out is as general as I suppose, the region will be bereft of its timber through natural causes much sooner than if a much larger rate of lumbering than the present was begun.

BROOKLYN, Dec. 7, 1883.

THE LOBBY AND ITS CURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your article under the above heading tempts me to return once more to the charge. The lobby is the fruit of our mode of doing business in Congress, just as much as the apple is the fruit of the tree. Just as long as the public business is cut up into fragments and tossed with an infinite mass of private bills into secret committees. which, through the collusion of the Speaker, can prevent business which they do not like from being passed at all, and all business from assuming any shape which they do not like-just as long as the public can know nothing of motives, can learn nothing of public debate, and can enforce no individual responsibility of any kind, just so long the lobby will flourish and increase in spite of all that the public or Congress can do. Congress, like a flock of sheep, must either be led or driven. If its natural leaders, the executive heads of the Government, are cut off from any access, the drover with whip and dogs must do the work from behind.

Why is what we call the lobby unknown in England? Simply because the executive ministry are responsible for the whole conduct of the Government. Any signs of corruption even in private bills would be immediately brought home to them by the Opposition. The lobby flourishes as vigorously (if not more so) about our State legislatures as about Congress, and for precisely the same reason-want of unity, of system, of organization, of responsibility. These are infallible fertilizers for the production of a rank crop of lobby mushrooms. The remedy, and the only remedy, is in giving to the executive greater control of and responsibility for legislation-which is another way of saying that the Cabinet should have seats in Congress. It is precisely the interest of the lobby and the committees which prevents the adoption of so common-sense a measure. When will a statesman appear with independence and courage enough to carry the question to the people ?

Boston, December 14, 1883.

G. B.

TENNYSON'S PEERAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: A great deal of gush and nonsense has been printed about Tennyson's peerage. It is all based upon a tacit assumption that because a man has written verses which have cheered and elighted the world, therefore the world has a proprietary interest in him, and has the right to dictate what his action shall be in matters

which really concern no one but himself. If this man had devoted his life to gambling in stocks, or even to some respectable form of money-making, or if he had been a selfish pleasure seeker, or even if he had been an average well-disposed person, going quietly about his business, doing his duty to his family and to his neighbor, all sensible people would recognize the impertinence of giving him any unsought advice as to what he should do in a personal matter such as the acceptance or rejection of a peerage. But because he has laid the world under a great burden of gratitude for having, by his writings, made it a brighter place to live in, there is an absurd pretension set up that the proper way of showing the public appreciation of his services is to harass and annoy him by criticising conduct which is not reprehensible in the forum of morals or manners, and which he may be supposed to have well considered before pursuing

No sane-minded man will seriously assert that Tennyson's poetry is less beautiful now than it was before he became a lord, that his numbers are less harmonious, that his thoughts are less elevated or less inspiring. Whoever finds in his acceptance of a peerage a rock of offence, impliedly confesses that his admiration of Tennyson's poems is rooted, not in their intrinsic excellence, but in the extrinsic accident of their being written by a man whom the general verdict has pronounced the greatest poet of the age.

Altogether there seems to be a singular misapprehension abroad as to the relation in which a great writer stands to his readers. The rational and natural view would seem to be that the benefit is conferred by the writer and the obligation is laid on the readers; and that the latter can only show their recognition of this state of the case in such a manner as will be agreeable to the former. One way of doing this is to be as willing to pay the writer as the printer and paper-maker and book-binder. In the case of the latter, no one asks whether they are American citizens; no one contends that if a book is printed by a foreign workman we have a right to cheat him of his wages; but there is a general impression that if the writer is not an American by birth or naturalization, we have a good title to the fruits of his labor without recompense. If the rash persons who have rushed into print with impertment remarks about Tennyson's peerage devoted their energies to preaching the gospel of common nonesty as embodied in international copyright, they would show their understanding of his ideas more practically and more conclusively. Next to paying a writer in mere money, the best way of testifying our esteem for him is the way in which we testify our esteem for everybody else -namely, by respecting his privacy and being careful not to wound his feelings or encroach upon his time. The mania for autographhunting has made the lives of many English and American writers a burden to them, and that other mania of ill-bred and half-grown American travellers for thrusting themselves upon foreign authors to express their incompetent appreciation is of a piece with the former. One can forgive Carlyle much of his atrabiliousness in consideration of the well-merited rebukes it led him to administer to this class of persons. And it is, no doubt, to just such ill-balanced minds that we are indebted for the offensive comments on Tennyson that fill the newspapers. By a mysterious dispensation of Providence hundreds of half-educated men who ought to be copying writs and leases, or collecting gas-bills, are permitted to edit newspapers, and every one of them seems to consider himself warranted in having a fling at a poet to whom the greatest minds acknowledge their indebtedness.

Notes.

WE have received from Charles Scribner's Sons vols. xv. and xvi. of their special edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' the contents of which we have already had occasion to report upon. By narrowing the margins and employing a less heavy paper, a somewhat smaller and much more compact volume has been obtained than that issued in the familiar red cloth, with a proportionate gain of shelf-room and of ease in handling, though, of course, with a certain sacrifice of beauty. A substantial and comely half-morocco binding still further recommends this edition.

But one part now remains to complete Messrs. Reiss and Stübel's remarkable work on Peruvian antiquities, 'The Necropolis of Ancon' (Dodd, Mead & Co.). The ninth, which has just appeared, contains one landscape, showing, in the almost pathetic technical language of the title of the plate, "the solitary grave of a simply equipped mammy "-i. e., one whose friends could not afford costly cerements. The other plates delineate, in a style of cbromolithography of matchless skill and verisimilitude, a great variety of stuffs, cotton and woollen, whose ornamental patterns furnish additional evidence of the cleverness in the art of design and exquisite color sense of the ancient Peruvians.

Cassino & Co., Boston, have published some illuminated holiday souvenirs, of which "Flowers of the Sea" is the most noteworthy—singularly delicate prints of seaweeds, which seem the actual pressed and mounted plants rather than prints. It is only the sense of touch which can readily decide. The prints are illustrated by selected poems by various authors. Not so successfully illuminated are Bryant's "Fringed Gentian," the flower employed in which seems rather the ciliata than the crinita (but it is long since we saw the latter), and the "Coming of the Birds," by Elaine Goodale. "Flowers of the Sea" ought to have a great success.

Prang & Co., Boston, send us their usual collection of Christmas and New Year's cards. The variety is enormous. The double card fringed with silk is tasteful and should be taking. Of the simpler forms we fancy most a pair of redbreasts singing a Christmas carol; while some of those of the more elaborate, which have the form of doll's fans, will be hailed with rapture by the little doll mothers who may get them.

The Forbes Co. (Boston) send us a book of samples of the Christmas and New Year's cards of Raphael Tuck & Sons, which illustrate the immensity and immense ingenuity of the Christmas-card system. They range in subject from cherubic to botanic, and some of the flower subjects surpass in delicacy and artistic feeling anything in their line we have yet seen. A miniature fire-screen which folds into a long letter-size, decorated on one side with "hips" (the roseberry), and on the other by forget-me-not, rose. cyclamen, and yellow marguerite, is perhaps the best of the series, but the ferns of a similar card will dispute the supremacy. A series of paper boats laden with flowers is worthy of special notice, and one of bouquets inserted in cardboard (Series 964), "sunflowers, lilies, and roses," is as good color-printing as flower work need be. The figure subjects are hardly up to the mark.

We have received from Hermann Wunderlich & Co. two large etchings by Stephen Parrish, called "Evening, Gloucester, Mass.," and "Portsmouth, N. H." Mr. Parrish does good service to the public by his explorations in the province of our seaside picturesque, and his rendering of

the subjects of these two etchings is a distinct consolation for the American purists who believe that an art lies in the crude exterior of our New World equal to any other. The Gloucester subject is the more fortunate of the two, but in the treatment of the water is not so happy as the Portsmouth, which also bears the New England ear-mark most deeply impressed. Both are large in treatment, but both also somewhat lack space in the distances and play in the water reflections. Does not Mr. Parrish know that the least motion in the water would render such lines as these in the reflection of the housegables in the Portsmouth subject absolutely misleading, and that such reflections as those of the black mass of the house at the right of the Gloucester are unpardonable? The perpendicular edges of reflection may be definite, but in the horizontal edges such hard-cut forms are impossible unless the water is of the most mirror-like rigidity, which the other reflections of the etching show not to be the case. Water must be as carefully studied for reflected forms as the earth for rigid ones.

The heliotype plates in the "Mountain-side" herd-book, issued by Mr. Theo. A. Havemeyer at Mahwab, N. J., are interesting not only as representing beautiful types of Jersey cattle, but as specimens of the art of reinforcing photography. Each animal's sun-portrait has been "worked over" by the artist in sympathy with her "points," and the resulting picture has been photographed anew for the process which has so many names since Albert invented it.

The double number 9-10 (vol. viii.) of the Library Journal is wholly given up to the papers and proceedings at the Buffalo Conference last August. These papers have all a more or less direct interest for educators, while bookbuyers owe a large debt of gratitude to Mr. J. L. Whitney for his extraordinary "List of Books with Changed Titles," These changes are. of course, in large measure innocent, especially in the case of foreign works translated and published at different dates. But too many are really fraudulent, and it is not difficult to detect the publishers who have been especially culpable. The list is followed by an author and subject index. We may also call attention to the report, by the Cooperation Committee, of condensed rules for an author and title cata-

Ludovic Halévy's 'L'Abbé Constantin' forms No. 2 of the series of "Romans Choisis" which W. R. Jenkins is issuing from time to time at 850 Sixth Avenue.

No. 12 of the Johns Hopkins University series on Local (American) Institutions relates to "Local Government and Free Schools in South Carolina," by B. James Ramage. This concludes the first volume, and is accordingly fitted cut with title-page and index. The intrinsic value of this series is very great—its example perhaps still more valuable.

A list of portraits of public characters intimately associated with the State of New Hampshire, and preserved either in the State-house at Concord, or the art gallery at Dartmouth, or at Pbillips Exeter Academy, is given in the Granite Monthly for November. Many of these represent personages of national repute and usefulness. Mr. Josiah Emery, in the same number, continues his list of New England earthquakes from 1638 to 1883. He finds the records very meagre from 1665 to 1727.

A portrait of the African explorer Romolo Gessi, with an account of the transportation of his remains to Italy, is given in the October Bolletino of the Italian African Society at Naples,

Two or three years ago there was printed at a private press in Oxford a little book called

the 'Garland of Rachel,' containing original poems addressed to a little girl of two by a score of the younger English poets. The contributions of Mr. Austin Dobson and of Mr. A. Lang got into the papers, and gave book lovers a great longing to get their hands on the book, which, however, will always be unflodable, since it was printed only in sufficient number to supply each contributor with one copy. But a later work from the same press, printed with the same care and with the same initials rubricated by hand, has been issued in a limited edition of one hundred copies, ten of which were taken for America. This is 'Prometheus, the Firegiver,' a dramatic poem by Mr. Robert Bridges. and the few copies in America are in the hands of Scribner & Welford.

'Old World Idyils' (London: C. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.; New York: Scribner & Welford), the new English edition of Mr. Austin Dobson's collected poems, differs but little from the American edition of 'Vignettes in Rhyme,' published by Henry Holt & Co, and introduced by Mr. Stedman. 'Old World Idylls' has been so well received in England that it has gone into a second edition within a month after its appearance. Fifty large-paper copies were privately printed with the book plate which Mr. E. A. Abbey drew for Mr. Dobson as a frontispiece. The new edition of the 'Vicar of Wakefield,' which Mr. Dobson has just prepared for the Parchiment Series, will contain in its notes a mass of new matter.

A catalogue of engraved portraits has recently been issued in Paris by P. Roblin (New York; F. W. Christern). It is a price list of the many series of etchings and engravings which may be utilized in the fascinating annisement of extra-illustrating—an amusement which is no longer wicked when the extra plates are not the spoil of rifled books.

Those who think that the drama is the department of literature in which the French most excel, and who have been in the habit of reading the best plays of the leading contemporary dramatists, have long regretted that M. Victorien Sardon no longer published his lively dramas. They will therefore be glad to learn that he has resumed the publication of his plays. "Divorçons" has just appeared (Paris: Calmann Levy; New York: F. W. Christern), and "Dora," "Fedora," "Odette," and "Ferréol," are promised shortly.

It has been an exposition year. To say nothing of the one at Atlanta, and the two at Boston, there is the great Colonial Exhibition at Amsterdam, a Retrospective Exposition at Malines. another at Yores, another earlier in the year somewhere in France, an Architectural Exhibition at Brussels, the Fisheries Exhibition at Lendon, the two electrical expositions at London and Vienna, and the Exposition des Arts Incoherents in Paris. Another, of a little different nature-the show of books, engravings, and manuscripts of and about Luther in the Grenville Library at the British Museum-has been the occasion of a lively controversy in the Athenaum between Mr. Karl Pearson (who asserted, in language which seems to us unnecessarily insulting, that the Museum had overlooked, through haste or ignorance, many important Luther documents, and had moreover made very serious blunders in the catalogue) and Messrs Henry Stevens and Henry Jenner, who defended the Museum in a fine sarcastic tone, and with arguments not always convincing.

The council of the Royal Society, London, has announced its award of the Society's medals for the present year as follows: The Copley Medal to Professor Sir William Thomson, for (1) his discovery of the law of the universal dissipation of energy; (2) his researches and eminent ser-

vices in physics, both experimental and mathematical, especially in the theory of electricity and thermodynamics; a Royal Medal to Professor T. A. Hirst, for his researches in pure mathematics; a Royal Medal to Professor J. S. Burdon-Sanderson, for his eminent services to physiology and pathology, especially for his investigation of the relations of micro-organisms to disease, and for his researches on the electric phenomena of plants; the Davy Medal to Doctor Marcellin Berthelot and Professor Julius Thomsen, for their researches in thermo-chemistry.

The meteorological observatory on the summit of the Ben Nevis was formally opened on October 17, and the station has since been provisioned with stores sufficient for a period of six months, nothing having been left undone which would secure the greatest possible comfort for the observers who are to occupy the station during the coming winter. Telegraphic communication with the outer world is now always possible by means of the cable running from the observatory to Fort William. The superintendent, Mr. Omond, and his two assistants took up their residence on the top of the Ben early in November last. At a meeting of the directors of the establishment, held in Edinburgh lately, Professor Sir William Thomson in the chair, the treasurer reported that the subscriptions now promised for its support amounted to about \$25,000. The scheme of work adopted for the approaching winter is very elaborate, and the observations are to be made hourly, by night as well as by day,

There is talk abroad of transporting the Paris Observatory to some distance from that city, to a site in the vicinity of the new Flammarion Observatory. The present location is recognized as objectionable in some respects, but the advisability of removing to a new site seems doubtful, unless the advantages to be derived are very great. The Observatory has lately signalized itself by setting up a novel form of equatorially-mounted telescope, in which the principal tube is bent at right angles, and the rays of light from any star are brought, after reflection from two plane mirrors, to an evepiece maintaining a constant position. The observer thus may be seated in a room adjoining his instrument, entirely shielded from all inclemencies of weather, while the instrument itself is, in large part, uncovered in the outer air. The new telescope is not surpassed in its optical qualities by any instrument of the Observatory, and it requires no expensive and cumbrous dome to cover it, as in the ordinary form of mounting. This ingenious construction is the device of M. Loewy, the sub-director of the Observatory, and its completion is due to the munificence of M. Bischoffsheim, a wealthy Paris banker and well-known patron of French

-A few juvenile books remaining unnoticed must be briefly dismissed. 'Two Little Waifs, by Mrs. Molesworth (Macmillan), is a very pretty and touching story of two children, apparently forsaken by their friends for a time, and left in a foreign country among strangers. Their ignorance of the language makes their difficulties peculiarly disheartening. The story seems a little hurried at the end. Where so much detail of trouble is given, a happy finale is apt to lack reality unless told at some length; and here the meeting at last of the children with their father is told in too few words. But perhaps nothing is more often shirked than the trouble necessary to make a wholly satisfactory close either to story or novel. In 'The Tinkham Brothers' Tide-Mill' (Lee & Shepard), Mr. J. T. Trowbridge has told of the indomitable pluck with which three young men defended their rights

and conquered their difficulties. The "Tinkham Brothers" seem, indeed, some years older and wiser than people are apt to be in their teens, but we lose sight of this in the interest of a very graphic story. It illustrates the self-assertive tendencies of Young America that while the mother is supposed to be a most delightful friend and companion to her children, she for the most part follows their lead and supports their plans, instead of taking the place of guide and guardian which would seem natural to her years. Two new volumes of the "Young Folks' History" (Estes & Lauriat) are Part 2 of the abridgement of Mrs. Strickland's 'Queens of England,' by Rosalie Kautman, and 'The Civit War,' by Mrs. C. E. Cheney. The first part of the 'Queens of England' we noticed with high commendation at the time of its appearance, and need not speak in detail of the present volume. It affords very interesting and useful reading for the young. We suppose that the editor's theory of the responsibility of the maker of an abridgement does not extend to corrections of matters of opinion. We are sorry to see on p. 162 so misleading a statement as that King Charles I. "ascertained that five members of the House of Commons were traitors "-" Pym and his confederates." The 'History of the Civil War' is also a book that can be heartily recommended. It improves as the author warms up to her subject. The first few pages strike one as being rather stiff and artificial in style, and altogether there is too great tendency toward digression and "moralizing." The story, however, is exceedingly well told, and in a spirit of keen sympathy with the objects and results of the war, if at times a little intolerant in tone. We can afford now to do justice to the aims and motives of the losers in the great contest. The illustrations are not so good as the book deserves. We find a queer and unnecessary blunder on p. 151-that "carnifex [Carnifex Ferry] is a Latin word which means 'villanous.' " A knowledgeful book, in perusing which the elder folk also will find themselves pleasurably refreshing their early tuition, is 'Young Folks' Whys and Wherefores: A Story by Uncle Lawrence' (Philadelphia: Lippincott). It is partly founded on a French juvenile, which has also furnished many of the illustrations. The American cuts, well enough by themselves, have here, beside the soft delicacy and artistic touch of the French, a crudeness so palpable that the book is pictorially much the worse for them. The little book is a very readable one, and many a child will be unable to lay it down before Captain Merton has arrived from his long and stormy voyage. The successive chapters are not, however, fitted together with any extraordinary tact, and the selection of topics introduced might easily have been wiser. Those about which little Annie is profuse with interrogatories are, in general, capitally treated, and more to the point, with an almost unvarying accuracy. Some parts of the book appear to have lost their originality and pointedness in the translation, and doubtless the little folk who can will do much better to read it in the original. Uncle Lawrence need have no fear lest his young friends may not find both instruction and amusement in its pages, and he will pretty surely be called upon for a second print of his little story, in which he ought to correct some of the numerical data he has employed, and which are among the by-gones.

— The interesting little book entitled with great propriety 'A Little Girl among the Old Masters, with introduction and comment by W. D. Howells' (Boston: Osgood) is rather a psychological than an art study. It is a curious pictorial record of the impressions of the Italian mediæval painters on a girl of ten, who

has had no training in drawing and no art surroundings in her earlier years. It is not an uncommon thing for children to show this precocious facility for drawing even in America, and it is not, as fond parents are always inclined to suppose, any indication of promise in the higher development of artistic capacity. It is often merely imitative; oftener simply nauralistic-in American children almost universally so; and the naturalistic tendency, so far from indicating the embryonic state of artistic individuality, is a counter indication. A strong scientific bent in a child almost invariably involves a fondness for drawing of natural objects, and this is the outcome of faculties and feelings diametrically opposed to the purely artistic. A child who had passed her life in the world of art, always under the influence of works of the ideal type, such as are those of the mediæval painters of Italy, might be expected to show art tendencies in the direction of their teachings; and it is a law, illustrated by the homologies in science, that the general evolution follows the same process as the individual: the art expression of an artist child, growing freely to maturity, will follow the same development and phases as those which art fellowed in its growth. The early efforts of any child of true art nature will resemble, in the way they approach and follow the ideal, the approaches and accomplishments of the early art epochs. The curious phenomenon of an American child of ten catching so completely the spirit of early Italian art as has the designer of these naïve and childlike drawings, does not fall under the general law which regulates the development of an art epoch -it is a sporadic case of a tendency absolutely alien to her life and surroundings which is well worth study as a case of reversion or anticipation, as the case may be, of the art life. The drawings are, so far as the technique is concerned, really childish; but the reflection of the inspiration of the religious masters is so true that at first blush one is almost ready to hail a real genius in its early stages. The motives of the composition and rhythm of the early Italians are reflected in a most unmistakable way, and some of the drawings are true compositions, which an accomplished painter might be glad to bave invented; and the symbolism and attribution are as bold and original as those of many of the great early painters, with whose vein this child's accords far more truly than with that of the Venetian and later painters. No. 13, the child Christ presenting the scales to St. Michael, is a complete and delightful picture motive; No. 17, the Madonna of the Orphans, but little inferior, and charming in the three little orphans who shelter in the Madonna's robes. No 22, a naïve arrangement of a triptych, is a good decorative theme, and now and then a delicious bit of action comes into a composition, as the angel playing on a lute in No. 3. It might be a great mistake to suppose that a possible mature art lay behind this precocity-the great probability is the reverse; but the book is none the less an item of æsthetical science peculiarly worth notice.

—We ought sooner to have called attention to the second volume of Dr. Willshire's Catalogue of the early prints of the German and Flemish schools in the British Museum. As the first volume was devoted to wood or metal cuts "en taille d'épargne," so this contains what are generally understood as "prints"—impressions from incised plates, "en taille douce." The exceeding richness of the Museum collections in the incunabula of the art renders this intelligent and detailed description of the work produced by the masters of Germany and the Low Countries up to the time of Israel van Meckenen a necessary

addition to the volumes of Bartsch and Passavant in the libraries of all lovers of that wonderful Flemish school which found its perfected development in Goltzius and Bolswert, Rembrandt and Houbraken. In his introduction, Dr. Willshire follows Passavant in vindicating for the Northern School, in the person of the master of 1446, the earliest known example of intaglio work, in opposition to the formerly received tradition which ascribes the invention of engraving to Maso Finiguerra, Baccio Baldini, and the Italian niellists; and he gives a facsimile of the very interesting print bearing this early date. A good condensation of the evidence as to previous niello work in Germany will also be found on pp 12-14. This volume is a further illustration of the liberal spirit which seeks to render the treasures of the Museum print-room accessible and available to students. No one who has experienced the courtesy of the late keeper, Mr. Reid, can help contrasting it with the narrow jealousy which guards the riches of some other public deposits. For the sake of art, it is to be hoped that the new keeper, Professor Colvin, will be equally true to the traditions of his

-The opening of the new library building at the University of Michigan on the 12th of December was an event of more than local interest. The friends of the large number of students at that university will be glad to learn that the rooms in the law building, which for twenty years have afforded shelter and meagre accommodations for the general library, have at length been surrendered to the exclusive use of that department of the institution for which the building was originally designed. A little more than two years ago the Legislature appropriated \$100,000 for a new and incombustible library building. The needs of the University were somewhat peculiar, inasmuch as the number of students using the library is very large in proportion to the number of volumes in the collection. It has thus far been deemed impracticable to allow the books to be taken away from the building, and consequently a large readingroom was indispensable. Mr. Van Brunt, of Boston, who had the advantage of experience in remodelling the Harvard library building, was employed as the architect, and the result is probably in many respects the most interesting uni versity library building in the country. The predominant feature of it is the semicircular reading-room. This room is admirably lighted by a continuous row of twenty-two windows near the ceiling. The reading-desks are ranged in semicircular lines and afford accommodations for 212 readers. The reading room is separated from the book-room by the main corridor and the delivery desk, while on either side are the rooms for cataloguing and administration. The book-room is constructed on what is known as the Harvard plan, and, besides ample provisions for enlargement, affords present accommodations for 108,000 volumes. In the second story are fitted up four rooms for the use of professors and students pursuing special branches of study. These connect directly with the upper story of the book-room, and thus the books likely to be most needed by specialists are made easily accessible. In two of the rooms will be carried on the work of the Seminaries of English Literature and Classical Philology, while the other two are devoted especially to the uses of the School of Political Science. The Shakspere Library, consisting of 2,500 volumes, recently presented by Mr. McMillan, is shelved in one of the rooms, and the new acquisitions on the subject of history and political science, of somewhat more than 2,000 volumes, are accessible in two of the others. In the story above the reading-room, the special

students' rooms, and the book-room, is the Gallery of Fine Arts, where is already to be seen a very interesting collection of marbles, bronzes, and casts, as well as of engravings and photographs.

-Those portions of the exercises at the opening of the library of most interest to the public at large were the historical sketch of the library by the librarian, Mr. Davis, and the more formal address by Mr. Winsor, the librarian of Harvard. The librarian reports that the number of volumes in the library has more than doubled within the last ten years. The unusual extent to which the books are used is indicated by the simple statement that the recorded number of volumes drawn during the past year reached 95,000. This number is estimated to be only about sixty per cent, of the total use of the books, inasmuch as the work of special students is carried on in the alcoves where no record of the books used is made. Within the past year Mr. James McMillan, of Detroit, gave to the University \$6,500, for the purchase of a Shaksperian collection; and a gentleman who declines to allow his name to be made known has put \$4,000 into the hands of Professor Adams for the purchase of books on history and political science. The books so provided, when taken in connection with the previous accumulations of the library, afford unusual facilities for students of English and of the various branches of history and political science. The Rau Library already furnished a nucleus of 4,000 volumes and 6,000 pamphlets on political economy, finance, and administrative law. Mr. Winsor's address was a plea in behalf of the preservation and the collection of books. The policy of discrimination, he said, has now been rejected by all the great libraries of the world, for the reason that what is the trash of one generation becomes the highly prized treasure of another. The British Museum and the other great libraries now reject nothing. But this policy has not long been pursued, and hence it is that no single library in the world is perfect enough to satisfy any considerable number of different specialists. John Quincy Adams thought it a matter of reproach that there was no library in America in which the foot-notes of Gibbon could be verified. Mr. Winsor doubted if there was a library in America to-day in which it could be done. Of the books that have been published since the invention of printing, not more than one-half of one per cent, are in the United States. And yet within the past twenty-five years we have set seriously to work to amass collections of books, and within the last few months the speaker had known a Spanish scholar, who had exhausted the libraries of the cities of Europe, obliged to cross the ocean to find prizes that had been brought hither from the Old World.

-The October number of the Antiquary contains "a description of England sent to Phillip II. of Spain" in 1686, communicated by J. Theodore Bent. As "it is presumable that is was one of the principal incentives to that monarch for undertaking his expedition," it must be regarded as a very important document. It begins with a list of the counties in geographical order, and of the noblemen of the country (earls and barons), also one of the leading ports; after these, follows an account of the military and naval force, and of the income and expenditure of the kingdom. The ports which are defended by forts or castles receive special marks, and the Catholic counties and noblemen are also indicated. Here are interesting details of information. Of twenty-three earls, seven are marked as Catholic; of twenty-six barons, the same number: Admiral Howardwe suppose Lord Howard of Effingham, whom historians call a Catholic-is not mentioned as

such. The classification of the counties is especially interesting. The seven northernmost counties, and most of those on the Welsh border, with more than half of those south of the Thames, are classed as "in the bands of men for the most part Catholic." On the other hand, the entire centre and the east coast (south of Yorkshire) is Protestant, with the exception of Oxford, Rutland, and Suffolk. It was here, it will be remembered, that lay the strength of the Parliamentary party in the civil war of the following century. In the same number Mr. Stanley Lane Poole writes of Mohammedan coins. Calling at tention to the prophet's probibition to make representations of living beings, he speaks of the beautiful arabesques which adorn many of these coins, and of the abundant genealogical and historical information which is stamped on them in the place of faces and figures. Apart from this information, they possess little interest, and the writer ends with saying: "I write after finishing the eighth volume of my Catalogue of Oriental Coms in the British Museum, which has been going on for the last ten years, and I have no hesitation in saying that Oriental numismatics is a science which is interesting mainly in its results."

-The recent production of the "Birds" of Aristophanes at Cambridge, England, writes an English correspondent, was regarded by the Committee as rather a hazardous undertaking, for although Greek tragedy has now abundantly proved its power over modern audiences, it was thought very doubtful if the old comedy was equally suitable for revival. And, notwithstanding the brilliant success of the performances, this doubt has been in great part justified, for most of the fun and fooling in the play resembled a modern pantomime too closely to be very interesting or impressive, while when the satire was not of a modern kind its point was entirely missed, except by the learned few, There was no idea dominating the whole play and leaving its impress upon the spectators; on the contrary, its interest consisted of variety of incident, and its success was owing to the admirable manner in which the incidents were acted. The leading parts were all acted with remarkable power and ease: Pathetaires spoke his eight hundred lines as readily as if Greek were the only language he knew, without an instant's pause or cessation of vivacity. and Eucloides kept the audience in constant laughter by his comic appearance and his ridiculous "business." The intelligence with which every actor contrived to render his own part an essential feature in the fun of the play was the most striking feature of the performance. Euclpides, for instance, when he was on the stage at one time without speaking, essayed his new wings in a series of extremely ridiculous attempts at flight from the top of the altar, each ending, of course, in disastrous collapse; when Peithetairos came to the words "intento riv akerraver," the Cock brought down the house by strutting out from the chorus group and giving a most lifelike crow; when the Priest, in sacrificing, scattered barley upon the stage, the Birds all ran forward and began to pick it up. The Birds were constantly engaged in some comical tricks, one of them going so far as to peck the long hair of the violone. It'st in the orchestra, to the great amusement of the audience and the embarrassment of that worthy man, Herukles drank off the contents of the saucepan in which Peithetairos was cooking, when the latter's back was turned; and Prometheus, hiding from Zeus under the sunshade, introduced as much comic "business" as an actor in a screaming farce. These things, and the brilliance of the spectacle, and the delightful music of Dr. Hubert

Parry, secured the present success, but it is improbable that another comedy will be produced in the series of classical revivals which bid fair to become a regular institution at Cambridge.

-The costumes of the Birds were probably less conventional and more picturesque than those actually employed by Aristophanes, and their ornithological accuracy was secured as nearly as possible by Professor Newton. Their dress consisted of a bird's head with an appropriate beak, covering the head of the actor except an oval opening for his face, and wings reaching from the shoulders to the knees and enveloping the arms, by which they were moved from within. Some of the birds had long necks extending several feet above the heads of the actors; these were swans, a spoon-bill, and a gorgeous flamingo. The bright colors and picturesque attitudes of this chorus made the "Birds' a far more brilliant spectacle than either the "(Edipus" or the "Ajax." The final scene was especially striking. On each side of the stage the Birds were grouped like infantry prepared to receive cavalry, the front rank crouching close to the ground, wrapped in their wings, the next row standing with their wings stretched out from the shoulders, and those behind extending their wings into the air: in the centre Peithetairos and Basileia, seated, in white wedding garments, with Euclpides, Prometheus, Herakles, Poscidon, and Triballos around them, and the hoopoe at the back spreading his broad yellow wings above them all. As before, Dr. Charles Waldstein, who has just been appointed the Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, at Cambridge, had charge of the stage management and the archæology of the undertaking.

-The veteran archæologist, Mr. F. C. Penrose. is now in Athens on a mission from the Dilettanti Society to excavate the site of the temple of Olympian Zeus, and to set at rest, so far as existing remains may admit, the long-vexed question of the interior disposition of this temple. The Opa of November 2-14 publishes an account of the results attained during the first few days of work. The plan appears to differ essentially from that of any other classic temple known, in that a foundation wall, dividing it longitudinally in the middle, has been laid bare to the length of 114 feet. There is evidence that this wall supported a row of columns immediately beneath the ridge of the roof. If this theory is confirmed by further investigation, Mr. Fergusson's restoration of the temple with a vaulted ceiling in connection with his ingenious, if a little hasty, conclusions as to the lighting of Greek temples, will have been upset. The foundation wall alluded to is apparently older than the other remains of the temple-perhaps as old as the building of Peisistratos-and extends to very near the present surface of the ground. Fragments of the main walls of the temple, a pavement of unhewn blocks, and other vestiges have been discovered at a depth of eight feet below the surface. The conclusion of Mr. Penrose's labors will be awaited with interest, especially as permission has been withheld by the Greek Government for many years

—M. Bertrand, in the Revue des Deux Mondes, comes out from the region of pure mathematics and gives a warmly appreciative account of a man of remarkable inventive genius—M. Marcel Deprez. Like many men of great originality, Deprez, when a pupil in the School of Mines, failed to give satisfaction to his teachers, and there was question of inviting him to discontinue his studies. The young scholar offered an excuse: accustomed to follow out his own ideas, when the beginning of a lecture suggested a problem he ceased to listen, and endeavored to

solve it. His qualities attracted the attention of M. Charles Coombes, an eminent engineer and member of the Académie des Sciences, who took him into his service and directed studies for which, now that he followed them at his own inclination, he showed great zeal. Deprez's first work was in connection with the steam-engine; he made important improvements in the slidevalve, the indicator, and the governor. In the course of his experiments on new methods for measuring the explosive force of powder, he found himself obliged to invent a chronograph. That already in use caused a spark from an interrupted current to record itself on the paper, but the spark was erratic and the record far from accurate. The method by which an interrupted current produces a magnet which moves an indicator, had been tried without success by Wheatstone and Regnault. The movements were too slow. M. Deprez produced a magnet capable of causing a motion of 50,000 metres a second, and the difficulty was removed. It is a maxim of his that in instruments of measure, the mass to be moved should be insignificant compared with the force which moves it; in his galvanometer the needle is replaced by a piece of iron, called from its shape a fishbone, between the arms of a powerful magnet, and measurements are taken by it in a few seconds, which formerly required as many minutes. M. Bertrand quotes a saying of Watt's, "There is no greater folly in life than to make inventions," which reminds one, by the way, of the dictum attributed to M. Bertrand bimself, that all mathematics beyond Euclid is "une excroissance maladive de l'esprit humain." M. Deprez was now thoroughly smitten with the folly of making inventions. Still a young man, his reputation was already such that learned commissions showed unlimited confidence in his projects, and literally gave him orders for in-

-No man of science has ever been more ready to talk about his projects to whoever would take an interest in them, or less eager to claim the honor of an invention when his ideas have been prematurely appropriated by others. When Le Verrier wished to explore a certain part of the heavens, he gave his subordinates a chart and said, " If there appears the slightest discrepancy between this chart and the sky, press this button: I shall come at once and I will take charge of the rest," When a discovery followed, the observers complained bitterly that they had been defrauded of the honor of making it. M. Marcel Deprez, in such a case, would have shrugged his shoulders and gone on observing. When his machines work well he considers himself rewarded for his pains. The number of his inventions is very great. He has a device for diminishing the personal equation, for measuring the velocity of a bullet, for comparing the intensity of two currents, for measuring directly the energy of a current. He has an electric motor, a machine for solving equations, for integrating, for calculating logarithms. But his greatest distinction has been obtained from his machines for the transmission and distribution of force. A fine conducting wire offers so much resistance that a strong current is immensely enfeebled; a wire sufficiently thick is of enormous cost. M. Deprez has solved the difficulty by making as fine as possible the wire in which the current is produced, thus being able to increase greatly its length. A wire in the generator fifty times louger means an electromotive force fifty times as great. At the Munich exposition of 1882, force (only half a horsepower) was transmitted a distance of fifty-seven kilometres. The commission announced the success of the experiment to the Académie des

Sciences by a telegraphic despatch. Two months ago, at Grenoble, seven horse-powers were transmitted a distance of fourteen kilometres with a loss of only 40 per cent. of the power used. At the Paris Exposition of 1881, M. Deprez received the grand diploma of honor for his method of distributing an electric current. In the experiments actually made the receiving machines have been supplied each by a separate wire. M. Deprez has a plan, as yet only on paper, in which the current is made to pass on a single wire to one machine after another. When some of the machines are cut off, the current is enfeebled in the former case, and strengthened in the latter; in both, M. Deprez regulates the generator by means of a current borrowed from the machine itself.

-In François Lenormant, whose death was announced a few days ago, France has lost one of her representative scholars. He died youngbefore completing his forty-seventh year-but left in productions of his own a little library on archæological subjects, mainly Oriental. His father, Charles Lenormant, having travelled in Italy, Egypt, and Greece, earned distinction by writings on numismatics, ceramic remains, Oriental history, and Egyptian antiquities. François, endowed with a precocious genius and an insatiable desire for learning, followed closely in his footsteps. Before the age of twenty he obtained the prize of numismatics from the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres. He wrote on the coins of the Lagidæ, the Sinaitic inscriptions, the Anastasi collection of Egyptian antiquities, and kindred subjects. He made scientific tours in Germany, Italy, Greece, and Syria. For a time he was attracted by diplomatic questions of the day, and wrote on the Ionian Islands in their relations to Greece, on the Syrian massacres, and even on Turks and Montenegrins: but after a few years of mixed endeavors he devoted bimself to the exclusive study of antiquities. His monographs and compilations became exceedingly frequent. Not a year passed without his appearing before the public with one or more learned publications on the history, religion, science, and art, or the languages of the ancient world, chiefly as revealed by the deciphering of the cuneiform inscriptions and the critical studies based on them. He was to France a kind of periodical reporter on all these topics of archæological inquiry, his summaries in varying forms being pleasantly written, comprehensive, lucid, and fresh, and flavored with striking comparisons and conjectures. His works were also diligently read by foreign scholars, and references to them are very frequently met with in the notes of the best German Assyriologists, though he never became an authority even in the fields best cultivated by him. His 'Manual of the Ancient History of the East' (written jointly with E. Chevallier, and often revised and republished), his 'Chaldæan Magic,' and 'Beginnings of History' have been translated into English. Among his Assyriological writings are 'Letters assyriologiques'including bis ' Études accadiennes'-' La Langue primitive de le Chaldée et les idiomes touraniens,' and 'Les Syllabaires cunéiformes.' He was a diligent contributor to French, German, English, and Italian learned periodicals, and displayed an almost feverish activity to the last days of his life. In 1870-71 he served as a volunteer in the defence of Paris, and at the battle of Buzenval was wounded Since 1874 he had been Professor of Archæology at the National Library of Paris.

—Robert von Hornstein has contributed some interesting reminiscences of Schopenhauer to the *Neue Freie Presse*. They are based partly on a good memory, partly on letters and jottings in

his diary. Hornstein's attention was first di. rected to Schopenhauer through Richard Wagner, whom he met in Switzerland when he was at work on "Rheingold," and who always spoke of Schopenhauer in the most admiring terms. Hornstein, having arrived in Frankfort, lost no time in hunting up the hotel "Englischer Hof," where Schopenhauer daily attended the table d'hôte. He saw the philosopher in conversation with the young artist Luntenschütz, who had just finished his portrait; and he was surprised at his youthful movements, his animated conversation, and frequent hearty laughter. The next day he resolved to call on him, and had an interesting conversation on Spanish, which Schopenhauer was learning in his old age; on travelling, which he insisted should be done by young people only; and on music. When he left, Schopenhauer remarked: "That I received you is due to my housekeeper, who said you were a student. If you had been a professor of philosophy I would not have received you. Professor Weisse of Leipzig one day called on me. But I answered in so loud a tone that he must have heard it: 'To Professor Weisse I am not at home," Some time after this. Hornstein was sitting at Schopenhauer's table in the hotel one evening when a man introduced himself to Schopenhauer as Professor Warnkönig, a friend of Fichte's (the younger). Schopenhauer's hearing being defective, he understood him to say, "I am Fichte," whereupon he exclaimed, "Fichte is no friend of mine," and rushed away. Hornstein followed him and explained the matter, whereupen Schopenhauer returned, apologized, and became very amiable toward the professor. On another occasion an American asked him what he thought of Hegel. "Acharlatan," was his curt reply. He had no high opinion of Americans. "I hate Americans," he said. "Their behavior is rude, their intelligence borrowed from the East. They have plenty of money to build cities, but not wit enough to give them names, so that in America all the names of European cities are to be met with. The Englishman is related to an American as a ducat to a counter. At first sight they are indistinguishable, but ever after-. The English are a noble nation, intelligent in the highest degree, so that one can forget their ecclesiastical superstition. The Americans, on the contrary, are Jewish orthodox without the English virtues." Publishers were another class of people he did not admire. One evening, when Baron Cotta was pointed out to him, he said, "I don't like publishers, least of all those who are barons." Schopenhauer denied the authenticity of two of the anecdotes current about him-the first being that he placed a gold piece before his plate every day, with the intention of giving it to some charity the first time his neighbors would refrain from talking about women, dogs, and horses; the second, that, some one having called attention to the fact that he ate as much as two, he replied that he also thought as much as two. Hornstein thinks that notwithstanding his strong likes and dislikes, he did not, in personal intercourse, give the same impression of savageness as in his letters and diaries published by Frauenstädt, Gwinner, and others. Like a naughty child, he sometimes in his writings got so excited that he must have astonished himself on reviewing them. After his genius began to be recognized he became more quiet. To Jean Paul he was grateful all his life for having said a few words in his behalf. But his special pet was Goethe, whom he defended with the jealousy of a lover. Schiller he regarded as Goethe's rival, and was therefore. by his own confession, tempted to underrate him. Byron he considered the second greatest o

English poets, and could never forgive himself for having made no use in Venice of a letter of introduction which he had from Goethe. "Do you know," he once said, "that in one year the three greatest pessimists were in Italy at the same time? Doss figured it out: Byron, Leopardi, and I. And yet none of them got acquainted." In regard to his personal habits, Hornstein tells that he smoked one cigar and one pipe every day, and used a little spuff. One day he was very indignant when he saw a laborer smoking while at work. His own idea was that tobacco should be used only at leisure, to keep the head clear and get as much as possible out of one's brain. His wish that he might live ninety years was not gratified, but the mone of his death was as sudden and unexpected as he had desired. He was pouring out his coffee one morning, and a few minutes later was found dead. In his will he had specially requested that the burial be delayed longer than usual, as he dreaded being buried

-Schopenhauer's views on music and musicians have not contributed to his reputation, and are generally looked upon as a huge joke. Rossini was his favorite. He had all his operas arranged for the flute, and played them through once a year. "I admire and love Mczart," he said, "and attend all concerts at which Beetho. ven's symphonies are played. But when one has heard Rossini, everything else appears heavy." And yet he avoided making Rossini's acquaintance when he stopped for a few days at the "Englische Hof." "That cannot possibly be Rossini," he said to the host; "that is a fat Frenchman." Schubert he did not appreciate. and criticised the incorrect conception of the "Erlking"! Mendelssohn's compositions he considered pretty, but devoid of genius, and his symphonies tedious. Gluck he always found tedious, and criticised his music because it could not be conceived apart from the words. Music is mightier than words. To unite them is to unite a prince with a beggar maiden. Concerning Wagner he said to Hornstein: "He sent me his trilogy. The man is a poet, not a musician." Wagner's practical view of music, it need hardly be said, differed in toto from Schopenhauer's. He only adopted the metaphysical view which assigns to music the highest place among the arts, because it is a direct expression of the will, which underlies all phenomens, while the other arts are concerned with these phenomena alone.

-Three compositions made up the programme of the second Philharmonic concert-Goetz's symphony in F ("Nania"). Beethoven's Fourth piano concerto, and Schumann's Fourth symphony. To the eye this short list looks formidable, but to the ear it was anything but tiresome. Goetz's symphony was probably a povelty to a large portion of the audience. It contains several pregnant themes that are developed with uncommon ingenuity and an easy command of musical form, while the instrumentation is quite on a level with the spirit of the time. Oue can never bear this symphony, or Bizet's Suite Arlésienne at a concert without regretting that both these composers should have died so young, at 36 and 37 respectively. They were the most gifted among the younger opera composers, Goetz's "Taming of the Shrew" being one of the most popular operas in Vienna and Berlin, where it is charmingly interpreted by Lucca and Lili Lehmann. The performance of Schumann's Fourth symphony was quite as full of life and feeling and as perfect in rhythmic shading as that of the First in Brooklyn, week before last, which seemed to mark the highest possibilities of orchestral execution. All the postic charm of the romanza was

brought out, and the way in which the short pres to at the end of the last movement was played was exciting in the highest degree. It is worthy of remark that there are not a few people in our best musical circles who frankly admit that they would rather hear a Schumann than a Beethoven symphony. Some of these are Wagnerites, and they hold this opinion in spite of the anathemas buried at Schumann's symphonies by one of the Bayreuth satellites. Prof. Baermann's performance of the Beethoven concerto differed in no essential respect from that a fortnight ago in Brooklyn, and deserves all the praise we then bestowed upon it. He conquered the affections of the audience prima vista, so to speak, and it is evident that Mr. Joseffy will have to look to his laurels.

KUENEN'S HIBBERT LECTURES.

National Religious and Universal Religious, By A. Kuenen, LL.D., D.D., Professor of Theology at Leiden. [The Hibbert Lectures, 1882.] New York: Charles Scribner's Sons

KUENEN'S great fame as a Biblical critic and historian of religion rests on comprehensive works unreprinted in this country, and not all of them translated into English. The Hibbert lectures of 1882 for the first time introduced the powerful dialectician and scholar to the English-speaking public at large. The most im portant results of his critical examinations in the field of Old Testament studies, by which he has become the head of the modern Dutch school of Biblico historical learning, are here presented in an epitome charming alike for its clearness, conciseness, strength of reasoning, and cogency of expression. The notes appended give an indication, at least, of the extent and freshness of the author's learn ing. Of the five lectures before us, the first and last are mainly devoted to Islam and buddhism respectively, but the author himself designates these fields as "ground which he dare not exactly call his own," and from which he "bastens to return to his own household gods." The connection between Christianity and Israelitism is his main subject, though the guiding thread of the systematic disquisition is "the connection between the surversal and the national religious as furnishing the explanation and the measure of their universalism." We will bere follow him only through the demain in which he is a

The questions are propounded: Was the worship of Jehova amongst the pre-exilian Israelites national! If so, in what sense! Was there more than one Jehovism! If so, in what relation did the one stand to the other? The problem is singularly complex. "The hypothesis of the introduction of Vahwism from without must be definitely abandoned." The philosopher Comte, by an arbitrary assumption, derived it from Egypt, but not a single student of the Israelitish religion has adopted his view. Renouf ridicules all pretended discoveries of Egyptian influences in Hebrew institutions. "From the earliest period down to the Babylonian captivity, Israel had its own national religion, which we can only call Yahwism." The sanctuaries of Shilob, Jerusalem, Dap, and Bethel, and also the bămoth (high places) all over the countryprobably of Canaauitish origin-were sacred to Jehovah. The sacrifices at the altars of Bethel or Zion, or at the numberless bamoth, which Amos, Hoses, and Isaiah denounced as hateful to Jehovah, were offered to him and to no other god. This worship was closely interwoven with the ordinary life of the Hebrew. His feast-days were holy days. His Sabbaths, new moons, barvest rejoicings, sheep-shearing feasts, and family gatherings were consecrated by religious solemnities and offerings. And the people thought Jehovah to be in their midst, relied upon his help, deemed his sanctuary their safeguard, and repaired to it for oracles. The mark of Jehovah was stamped upon many Hebrews in their very names, compounded with his. From Jehoshaphat downward almost all the kings of Judah bore names thus formed. The Old Testament is full of evidences of this devout disposition of the ancient Hebrews toward Jehovah.

And yet the current conception of the religious condition of ancient Israel is widely different. This erroneous conception is derived, not from special traits, with which the most trustworthy pages of Israelitish history abound, but "from the general reviews of the popular religion which the Israelitish historians lay before us - the introduction of the book of Judges and the retrospect of the fates of the kingdom of the ten tribes." According to these authorities, the generation that had conquered Canaan under Joshua remained faithful to Jehovab. Then began the apostasy. Israel forsook Jehovah and served the Baals. Chastisements and deliverance brought the people back to the God of their fathers, but only for a time; on the death of each divine deliverer the people relapsed into idolatry. In the kingdom of the ten tribes things were constantly most deplorable. There was no faith in Jehovah; and strange gods, such as Bael and Moloch, received an abominable worship. The warnings of the prophets were not heeded, all the commandments of Jehovah were scorned. And in Judah things were generally no better. In Chronicles this picture is darker still. The prophets themselves speak of the religious condition in both kingdoms in the barshest terms, but while they declare that the people serves Jehovah in its own wrong way, that the seats of its worship have become centres of oppression and licentiousness, the historians represent it as forsaking him altogether, now and then or continuously. The explanation is easy. The Mosaic law, as defined in the Pentateuch, a production of a later date than the books of Amos, Hosea, or Isaiah, is the standard of the historians. Judged by this standard, the popular religion was anything but Jehovism. What the people had done in all sincerity to the glory of Jehovah, worshipping on every high bill and under every green tree, conflicted with so many injunctions of the later law that the historians could only regard it as equally abominable with idolatry itself, as apostasy from the national God. To inculcate the sinfulness of such practices was, besides, still the duty of the hour. And had not Jehovah himself condemned the past? Had he not cast away Israel in his wrath? "The fathers upon whom it had fallen had not served Yahweh." They must be branded as idolators

Priests and prophets were the instructors of the people in the name of Jehovah. The priests acted mainly as judges, as dispensers of divine decisions as to right and wrong. They shamefully neglected their duty and shamefully abused their position, as the canonical prophets tell us in scathing words; but the reproofs themselves, and the ideal of the sacred calling held up to the judges in reproof, bear witness to the ethical character of Jehovah, whose servants they were. This ethical character of the national God is a trait-the great distinctive feature-not only of the prophetic, but of the popular Israelitish religion. Priests and prophets for many centuries formed special social orders. Originally the two stood in close connection with each other. Samuel united in his person the priestly with the prophetic function. But there is no trace to be found

of a connection of the prophets with the altars and sanctuaries of Jehovah. Neither was the prophetic office ever regarded as hereditary, as was that of the priests. There are marked points of contact as well as of distinc tion between priest and prophet. "Both passed in the eyes of the people for the trusted interpreters of the Deity. But whereas the priest was thus gifted in virtue of his office and as the bearer of a consecrated tradition, and was accordingly referred to on the ordinary occasions of life, such as the administration of justice, the privileges of the prophet were more personal. , momentary and intermittent. The prophet is the organ extraordinary of Yahweh, and as such the natural counsellor in the perplexities which the oscillations of fortune or the uncertainties of the future bring upon Israel." Prophecy, whatever its origin may have been, was an integral part of the national life in the Hebrew states. The people saw in it a proof of Jehovah's special favor. In times of gloom they were comforted by the trust that the word of Jehovah would never fail the prophet.

"The consciousness of standing in connection with a higher world, of being inspired or impelled by the spirit of God, is in itself glorious and exalting. In spite of the aberrations to which it is exposed and the abuses to which it too readily lends itself, we may yet aver that power goes forth from its consciousness, power for the cleausing of the inner man, for the support of self sacrifice and heroism. But it it is artificially excited and cultivated, if there is a premium, so to speak, on ecstasy, and its absence makes a man unfit for the chosen task of his life, then it becomes a very different matter. Corruptio optimi pessima. What is more miserable than assumed transport of spirit and pretended divine inspiration? The application of this to the prophetic order is too obvious to need pointing out... But—and here we come to the second point—might we not expect a priori that some few eminent personalities would rise up from the order itself, or would be fired by the example of its members, and would realize the idea of prophecy i... The low level of the prophetic guild, as a whole, and the degeneracy of prophecy in some of its representatives, are sufficiently obvious. But in like manner the eminent exceptions of which I has spoken are known to us from history. I have but to name Samuel, Nathan, Elijah, and Elisha... The prophets whose names I have mentioned are distinguished by their moral carnestness and courage. Samuel—Saul; Nathan—David; Elijah—Ahab and Amaziah: I have only to put these names side by side to make my meaning obvious... This brings us back to the ethical element in the conception of Yahweh on which we have already fixed our attention. It was in those prophets whom it bad most deeply impressed, who were most completely penetrated by the term and inexorable character of Yahweh's moral demands, and had therefore become the preachers of righteousness, that prophecy reached its full dimensions and bore its ripened fruit."

The earlier prophets relied upon their spoken word; in the eighth century B C., the prophets began to write down the word previously spoken. "Israelitish literature dates from this century, or at all events from not much earlier. The national songs were then written down, collected, and provided with historical notes; out of these beginnings historical writing developed itself. Thus also arose-six or seven hundred years after the time assigned to Moses-"presumably in priestly circles, the earliest collections of laws and moral exhortations, one of which we possess in the Book of Covenant (Exod. xxi,-xxiii)." The pen proved powerful, and the prophets, too, grasped it to extend their influence beyond the circle of their hearers and the hour in which they addressed them. The prophet's character remained the same after he had become an author. Amos and Hosea are the legitimate successors of Elijah and Elishathe organs of Israel's national God. "Yahweh Israel's God and Israel Yahweh's people! It surely needs no proof that the canonical prophets endorse this fundament conception of the

popular religion. . . . The whole of their preaching takes this as its starting point, and leads back to it as its goal." They anticipate evil days for Israel. Jehovah will chastise and humble the sinful nation-but he will not wholly destroy the house of Jacob. Humbled Israel is to be restored to new life, transformed. Jehovah makes a new covenant, and writes it on his people's hearts. "But, however great the change may be, though the wolf lie down with the lamb and the suckling child play by the adder's hole, nay, though there be new heavens and a new earth, vet the relation between Yahweh and Israel remains the same," On this point, Amos, Hosea, Isaiab, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and even Deutero-Isaiah are unanimous; all stand on the ground of nationality. And yet there is a mighty difference between the notions of the people and the thoughts of the prophets; the antagonism is as undeniable as the kinship; the divergence sometimes amounts to hostility. This is surprising, but far from inexplicable.

The prophets are completely dominated by the inviolable moral law. They are the champions of the inexorable demands of Yahweb, the Holy, the Righteous One. They are preachers of repentance, and aunounce disaster, for the people are unrighteous. Oppression, extortion, perjury, impurity defile the land, and Jehovah cannot leave such guilt unpunished without renouncing his own moral nature; woe then to the guilty nation! This profoundly ethical conception of Jehovah's nature and designs brings the prophets into conflict with the beliefs of their people. The latter see in Jehovah only their protecting God, the always ready defender of his people. He is righteous, but King of Israel above all. He sometimes hides his face in anger, but only for a while. He can and must be appeased by more numerous vows and offerings. He will not and cannot abandon his people. His own honor demands his people's victory. His obligation to display his might against its foes and their gods must overbalance the demands of his righteousness and the trespasses of his worshippers. "Is not Jehovah in our midst? No harm will overtake us!" And this very confidence the prophets not only did not share, but they denounced it as both vain and sinful. According to them it was not absurd to think that Jehovah might side with Israel's foes. Nay, they declared that Jehovah himself brought those enemies upon them-the Assyrian, the Babylonian. They ascribed more might to Jehovah than the people dreamed of: but with them righteousness was his character, not only an attribute; and be must act in accordance with it; he might re_ nounce his people, but could not renounce himself. The people and the popular leaders could not see this. To them such unpatriotic belief was both treasonable and blasphemous. On the convictions of the prophets themselves, on the other hand, the recognition of Jehovah's ethical character had a marked influence. Jehovah ceased to be what he was in the estimation of the people, the mightiest of the gods. He stood not only above the gods, but in most distinct opposition to them. "If Yahweh, the Holy One, was God; if he was God as the Holy One, then the others were not. . . . Monotheism was the gradual, not the sudden result of this conception." With it grew the august idea of the moral government of the world, of which even the conquering Assyrian was recognized as a blind tool. And the day was looked for in the future when the Assyrian bimself at d the Egyptian, his rival, would willingly serve Jehovah, and unite with Israel in worshipping him: when all the nations would serve him with one accord -though the word of Jehovah would still go forth from Jerusalem. Isaiah, Micah, Zephaniah, have all glorious visions of the remote future; the universalism of Deutero-Isaiah takes the highest flight—but even he is not free from the spiritual shackles of nationalism.

Not one of the prophets ever thinks of severing Jehovah from Israel. But their ethical conception of religion has modified the traditional bond uniting God and people. "You alone," speaks Amos's Jehovah to Israel, "have I known of all the races of the earth: therefore I shall visit all your sins upon you." The selection, instead of offering immunity, involves severe judgment. Isaiah's Zion is inviolable, as the seat of Jehovahbut only the remnant which repents shall escape destruction. This remnant bears in itself the holy seed from which a new, true people of Jehovah is to spring. Isaiah appears to have gathered that remnant around himself-it embraced his family, spiritual kindred, and disciples-and placed it over against the people. His separatism "is a remarkable token of the growing independence of Yahwism, a milestone on the way which it must traverse in its course from a national to a universal religion." Nascent universalism reveals itself still more strongly in the tragic figure of Jeremiah, whom we see standing almost alone, with his faithful servant Baruch, against his whole people; hunted as a traitor, because to him Zion is not inviolable. Zion, its temple, and Judah must go down: the old covenant is abolished; Jehovah will strike a new covenant with a renewed Israel, a covenant fitted and destined for "many peoples." Deutero Isaiah's universalism embraced all the peoples; Israel, "the servant of Jehovah," is to be their teacher, their "light."

But Israel was not prepared for the task. The prophets had not succeeded in sinking their conception of Yahwism into the consciousness and life of the nation. Their activity was too fragmentary for the radical transformation they aimed at. They must have felt it themselves. King Hezekiah's measures for purifying the worship were probably the result of their own experience and advice. This reformation did not last. Hezekiah's successor hastened to undo his work. The reformation achieved in the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was grander in its scope. In that year, under Hilkiah's and Huldah's auspices, a book of law-Deuteronomy, "to give it the name by which we all know it"was brought forward and solemnly adopted and promulgated. It embraces exhortations and precepts breathing the spirit of prophecy, legal statutes derived from usage or from older lawbooks, and-what is a distinctive featureordinances prohibiting religious service at the bāmōth and confining the worship of Jehovah to the temple at Jerusalem. By this centralization of the cultus-a field untrodden by his predecessors, the prophets-the Deuteronomist proposed to extinguish idolatry and make his ideal Jehovism supreme in the land. "The Deuteronomic thorah gained what its champions desired-the opportunity of revealing itself in itsmight, and exerting its influence uncontrolled. . . . Yet none the less it failed." Josiah's death at Megiddo and other disasters allowed no time for its working and development. Pure monotheism could not take root at the central sanctuary itself. Jeremiah despaired of Zion; the Chaldean destroyed it. It was in the captivity only that the Israelites outgrew idolatry. But Jehovism continued to assert itself with little vigor among the people even after the restoration, and it was as late as the middle of the fifth century B. c. that, through Ezra and his priestly law-now embodied mainly in Exodus and Leviticus-Jehovism became completely the religion of the Jewish people, in a new form. Ezekiel and other priests had paved the way for Ezra. 'What the prophetic preaching had failed to effect, what Deuteronomy, the prophetic thorah had only half accomplished, that was brought to pass by Judaism." The ties of nationality were now drawn more closely; the Jewish people fenced itself round with observances; separation was the watchword under the priestly thorah, and its expounders the Scribes, but the international and universal elements were by no means wanting. "The stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love bim as thyself," is an injunction of the priestly law. Judaism was modified in the colonies; Jewish Hellenism arose. The universalism of the prophets was imbibed from their sacredly guarded pages. Proselytism extended the Jewish community. 'Judaism was by no means without consciousness of its own broader destiny." And out of it. not out of "Roman Hellenism"-as Bruno Bauer attempted to show-grew the world-religion Christianity.

ILLUSTRATED HOLIDAY BOOKS.-11.

Original Etchings by American Artists. Cassell & Co.

Sport with Gun and Rod in American Woods and Waters. Edited by Alfred M. Mayer. The Century Co.

It would have been just as well if the publishers of the superb volume of 'Original Etchings' had frankly and resolutely adhered to the pretension of their title, and limited the contribution to American artists-i. e., to the works of men who, if not born on this side of the Atlantic, have received their inspiration or their education, or both, in this country. Nor would the work have lost in character, since it so happens that the best plates in the volume are by the American contributors; best not only in the sense of the most successful, which is not always the same thing, but in the evidence of the possession of the artistic inspiration which marks the painter born, Farrar, DeHaas, Gaugengigl, Dielman, and Van Elten are in no sense of the word American artists, nor have they become artistically so naturalized as to have thrown off their old allegiance and caught American ways. This is no reproach and no disparagement of their artistic value: it is simply the impeachment of any right to stamp them as American, be it for worse or better, and to include their work in a collection professedly limited to American art work. The artists named, with the exception of Mr. Farrar (who has no special manner), are distinctly European in every element of their art, as they are of birth and art education; and they have no more right here than Seymour Haden. But, as it happens, the best etchings here given are by men at least as distinctly American as Moran, whose "Tower of Cortes" might be awarded the palm, the "Twilight" of Mr. Monks being admitted to dispute his claim; and if solemnity of feeling and simplicity of treatment are to be reckoned as cardinal virtues in art, the latter may even be given the first place. In its florid pictorial way, for its masterly suggestion of form, and the disposition of its masses, the "Tower of Cortes" certainly reaches as high ground as anything we know of in contemporary landscape engraving. "Gloucester Harbor," by Stephen Parrish, is a large and vigorous rendering of a bit of home material, admirable in its way, and as simple as it is vigorous-clear and honest etching throughout. Mr. Wood's "His own Doctor," fine and subtle as a subject, is treated in the etching in a large and frank manner, which gives the old negro a pathos and human interest which the least extravagance in treatment or caricature in conception would have destroyed. Mr. Gifford's "Mouth of the Apponigensett" is

a simple, forcible rendering of a homely scene, well felt, and with a dreary stretch in its distance which is expressed in firm lines, full of meaning, the distinct fault being in the meaningless long lines of the near water. The Smillies' plates are both fine in different waysthe "Marblehead Neck" in its delicate rendering of tone and its balanced composition, and the "Oll Orchard" in its vigorous and luminous distance against a simple sky, with a quaint composition motive. Mr. Church's "Lion m Love" is not up to the level of other of his designs we have had to notice, and is ineffective as etching. Pennell's "Ponte Vecchio" is a curious failure-inky, and without air or general effect, and singularly inadequate to the motive. Colman's "Venice" is the conventional fishingboat city-by-the-sea, with a sky that suggests an eiderdown coverlid, but still a pleasant etching, with air and stace and tremulous water. Farrar's "Winter Twilight" has nothing genuine about it-no shadow from his twilight, no woodiness in his trees, no solidity in his earth, no invention in his forms, and no breadth in his masses; neither naturalistic nor artistic, but evidently made out of his inner conscious

The literary introduction and interludes are worse than wasted. Two such pages about the ancients as accompany Mr. Colman's "Ventce," with no allusion to the etching, and no intelligible one to Venice, are enough to make one question the direction of the writer's ideas. Wa should like to know who is the German "philosopher," as the writer calls him-we should use another word-from whom he quotes the following nonsense, "that the subjective element in a work of art is simply the base peculiarity by the admixture of which its indwelling spirit is contaminated." If this is not a man of straw set up for Mr. Koehler's easy knocking over, we should like to know more of his personality. The introduction is four pages of dreary wordiness, windily disputing a proposition in the clouds, viz.; that etching is not able to do what we see it doing every day

The pith of the dissertation which forms the introduction of the book may be gathered from the following:

"That etching is a linear art—that is to say, an art which must use the line as a means—is a truism. It is not true, however, that the line can express form only, or any one other thing only. If that were so, line engraving and the woodcut would never have come to be looked upon as the reproductive methods best fitted for the translation of finished paintings. However, as compared with the methods just named, etching has other advantages, which must not be lost sight of: the freedom and warmth of its line, the brilliancy to be obtained by judicious pointing, the subtilty supplied by its inseparable adjunct, the dry point.

The dectrine of limitation is, I tear, the outcome only of individual limitations. But it behoves the calm observer, who stands outside the charmed circle of art, unswayed by the passions that rule within, to rise above them, and to recognize the truth that the beautiful art of etching is as broad and as all-embracing as the capacities of the human mind."

Broader than such dissertation it may be, but not flatter or shallower. In spite of the editor, however, the 'Original Etchings by American Artists' is one of the most noteworthy and valuble art publications which American art has given birth to. With the exception we have pointed out, there is not a poor etching, and only two or three weak ones, in the series.

Professor Mayer's 'Sport with Gun and Rod' is a large quarto volume of nearly 900 pages, divided into four departments, with the respective titles of "Large Game," "Fish," "Feathered Game." and "Out of Doors." It begins with an appropriate and interesting introductory article, by the editor, on the "Prehistoric Hunter."

Next comes one on the black bear, by Mr. Ward, which is written rather from the standpoint of an artist or naturalist than a sportsman, though Mr. Ward shows himself fully competent to deal with his subjects in the latter relation when he comes to write about caribou and moose-bunting further on. These are among the best things in the book, and particularly happy in their descriptions of the characteristics and modes of speech of the Indian guides, as well as of the habits of the game. There is also an excellent description of moose hunting by the Earl of Dunraven, and of musk-ox shooting by Lieut, Schwatka, "A Buffalo Hunt in Northern Mexico," by Gen. Lew Wallace, carries with it an idea of imaginative flatulence that very much weakens its effect. For in-tance, on p. 126; "The fisherman who has landed a tenpound golden salmon from the golden beds of the Kankakee can tell you my feelings." (He had just shot a bison after a couple of pages of fine writing, and his emotions were evidently inexplicable.) Now the "beds of the Kankakee, 'a sluggish stream of eastern Illinois, are more muddy than auriferous; there never was a live salmon within 500 miles of them; and if Gen. Wallace had ever seen one anywhere else, he would not have described its color as "golden." The remainder of this article can be better comprehended if the reader has a fair knowledge of the Spanish language, which is scattered throughout it with liberality, largely in the form of expletives.

In addition to those already mentioned, we would specify chapters on "Fox Hunting in New England," "Bear Hunting in the South," "Mole Deer and Wild Sheep," as well worth reading in the space devoted to "Large Game." The part on "Fish," consisting of six or seven articles, is begun with "Trout Fishing on the Rangeley Lakes." The waters about the Oquossoc club-house are those described, and Mr. Seymour shows conclusively throughout his chapter, to one familiar with the place, and an angler, that he depended more on what was told him than on his own experience for his facts. Most of the large fish, calling those over four pounds such, taken in the Rangeley waters, do not, we are sorry to say, come to their death through the arts of fly fishers; and in the days whereof Mr. Seymour writes, the favorite, though not ostensible, mode of catching them was, in the early season, by groundbaiting a likely spot with a few quarts of bashed chubs, and next day fishing it with a bait of the same. In the autumn the largest trout taken were from the spawning beds, and that in some instances with a bait of trout roeall of course being credited to the fly, though the largest one we have ever known taken in these waters in this manner during the early fishing. was killed by the late Mr. Dawson, and weighed. as we recollect, five pounds and a quarter. There has, we believe, been a change for the better in the way of fishing of late, and less is heard of trout of eight, nine, and ten pounds, though such are undoubtedly still there. Dr. Henshall, who is the authority on this game-fish, writes interestingly and reliably on the black bass; and Mr. Thaddeus Norris's chapter on "The Michigan Grayling" is as accurate and trustworthy in its descriptions and information as everything he has written about his favorite pursuit of angling. "Salmon Fishing" is the subject of a contribution by Mr. Wilkinson, who parrates his first experience in the art, which took place on the York River, Canada. After a capital article on "Sea_ Bass Fishing," and another on "Sea-Trout Fishing," the augling portion of the book concludes with brief chapters on the length and weight of brook trout and "The Split Bamboo Rod." As much prominence is given to the merits of these rods, not only in this article, but incidentally in some of the others, we may say, for the benefit of the tyro who dreads the great necessary outlay for their ownership, that there are other rods, not quite so handsome, but much more durable under hard service, to be had for from one-quarter to one-third the cost.

The last third of the volume is devoted to "Feathered Game" and "Out of Doors," including two able articles on "American Sporting Dogs" and "The Shot Gun," and is written with much more absolute knowledge of its topics, as a whole, than the matter which precedes it, Among the best, besides those above mentioned, may be specified the chapters on "The North American Grouse," and, barring its somewhat pretentious title, "Bob White, the Game Bird of America." As an appropriate appendix, Mr. C. D. Warner is represented by two of the monographs which have brought him into fame as a sporting author-"How I Killed a Bear" and A Fight with a Trout," the latter a most delightful satire on the ordinary angling literature of the country. "How to Mount a Bird" and "Bow Shooting" end the book, which is excellently printed and contains many beautiful illustrations, a number of which are mounted on Japanese proof paper. In the article on "Striped Bass" there is one wrongly credited to Walton's Complete Angler'; it is the well-known one from Dame Juliana Berners's 'Treatyse of Fysshynge with an Angle.' Another, on p. 446, represents the impossible feat of one man in a sitting posture poling a canoe and fisherman up the centre of a heavy rapid.

Tue Century Company is entitled to much praise for this the most considerable effort in this country to bring out-of-door sports to the public notice, but there is chance for improvement and greater accuracy in the selection of material for future volumes which it is hoped may follow this. A man to write on sport up to the demands now existing, and which long have existed in England, must know his subject thoroughly. One short experience in angling, or a few days' shooting, do not yield sufficient store of knowledge, even when supplemented by such information or misinformation as the amateur may pick up on his trip, to qualify him to write as an "expert," by which class we believe one of the advertisements claims that this book has been composed. A number of the contributions bear conclusive evidence that their authors understood their subjects and were themselves sportsmen"; others, and these not the least interesting to the general reader, the reverse. As models of writing of this kind, not only in composition, but from the point of view of the sportsman and naturalist, we might mention the various books of John Colquboun and Scrope, and Chas. St. John's 'Natural History and Sport in Moray.' These writers had, in addition to the true sportsman's zest in the pursuit of game, the love of the naturalist for ascertaining and describing its habits and modes of life. Mr. St. John added to this power that of making vigorous and life-like pen-and-ink sketches of the game he captured, which adds wonderfully to the attractions of his book. Books and even articles on sport, of the first class, should be written by men who are accomplished in the art, love it, are naturalists, educated, and truthful.

RECENT POETRY.

The multiplication of good books of poetical selections shows the approach of Christmas-time. Eest among these we should rank a new edition of Sir Francis Palgrave's well-known 'Golden Treesury,' with a continuation embracing selections more recent than those contained in the

original work, the whole being edited by Mr. John Foster Kirk (Lippincott). The additions are fairly good and so is the preface. But Mr-Kirk makes a slip in saying that Blanco White "wrote no poetry besides his famous sonnet" (p. viii.), for his other sonnet, "On hearing myself for the first time called an Old Man," is really, as Mr. Caine has pointed out, "quite as admirable in point of technique," though not in thought, as that other production which Coleridge placed at the head of British sonnets.

Next to this volume we should place 'Fair Words about Fair Woman,' gathered from the poets by O. B. Bunce (Appletons). Here we have all needed sumptuousness of type and paper, and many fine poems, with prose interludes in the form of conversation, the whole being divided into eight "evenings," somewhat after the fashion of William Morris and the Italian storytellers. To confess the truth, these prose pages do not afford a setting quite good enough for the gems they present, being indeed a little crude and sometimes almost flippant; it would have been better if "Bachelor Bluff" could have been kept to his own domain, which is certainly not that of ideal poetry.

It seems a curious transition from 'Quiet Hours' to 'Classic Heroic Ballads,' but the compiler of the former well-known collection has edited the latter also (Roberts Bros.). It is an admirable book, and should go with Froissart and Plutarch into every boy's library. The selections seem to us very nearly perfect; not quite, for Thornbury has ballads yet more vigorous than," The Cavalier's Escape"; and the author gives the weaker and diluted version of "Scots wha hae," instead of the stronger one. "On to glorious victory" can never have the ring of the original "On to victory"; and so with the last line of every verse. True, Burns bimself made the alteration, but it was against his own better judgment.

The three volumes which complete the series called "English Verse" (Scribbers) only confirm the opinion we have already expressed as to its merits and defects. In respect to quantity of matter they confirm the original promise of the prospectus, but in no other way. We are still left without alphabetical indexes of authors; still find a provoking inequality of execution. The volume of 'Dramatic Scenes and Characters 'strikes us as by far the best, and in the preliminary essay Mr. Stoddard is on ground where he is strong. In the volume of 'Ballads and Romances' his work seems more perfunctory and his knowledge incomplete. He not only does not refer to the existence of Professor Child's great critical edition, now in process of publication, of English and Scottish ballads, but when he mentions that eminent editor's name he calls him "Childs" (p. xvi.). Least satisfactory of all the series is the volume of 'Translations,' in which there is a wide and creditable range in the languages represented, but a provoking narrowness in the selection of translators. Under Æschylus we have nothing from Browning or Fitzgerald; under Euripides, nothing from Milman; under Sophocles, nothing from Whitelaw; under Aristophanes, a version of the "Birds" far inferior to Cary's; under Theocritus, a translation not so characteristic and vigorous as one or two made by Mr. Stoddard's own friend Stedman. In the modern languages, it is worse, Longfellow's 'Poets and Poetry of Europe' is not even named among the authorities, nor is there a single translation by him; while the "Indian Song of Songs" and its fine companion ballads, by Edwin Arnold, are also omitted. Aubrey de Vere's Irish legends give a better impression of that remarkable school of tradition than any here included, and Mr. Linton should have

given at least one translation from Béranger from some other hand than his own. To render a line

"Of her great beauty raved enthusiastly" (p. 155)

is to give a very poor equivalent for the precision and clearness of the great French singer.

Some editor of an anthology of translations might well draw freely from a good rendering of 'The Odes of Horace,' by Henry Hubbard Pierce, Adjutant of the Twenty-first U. S. Infantry (Lippincott). As if there were some inherent doubt as to the scholarly trustworthiness of a book dated at Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, the author's classicism is duly vouched for by Professor Fries, of Michigan University: but the translation tells its own story, and offers one a good deal of the soul of Horace in small space. We cannot so easily perceive the raison d'être of a volume called 'The Agnostic,' by another representative of the same family name, the Rt. Rev. Henry Niles Pierce, Bishop of Arkansas (Whittaker). The trouble with this work, as with most of the polemic writings of bishops, is that it simply puts up a man of straw to be knocked down. There are many who call themselves agnostics and yet distinctly recognize, in their own way, all that the worthy Bishop here claims.

The Rev. Mark Pattison's delightful little edition of Milton's 'Poems' (New York: Apple ton) attempts nothing dangerous in the contro versial line, but keeps to the still air of delightful studies. He gives translations by different hands of the Italian sonnets, and copious notes upon all. If we were to criticise the book, it would only be for too great insistence upon the Italian form of sonnet, which is rightfully now accepted as supreme, but must not blind us to the peculiar value of the Shaksperian form, the manner in which the closing couplet seems to give a completeness to the whole poetic structure, and sums up the meaning, while its music breaks like the tenth wave along the shore. Shakspere really created a distinct form of verse, as well as Petrarch, though the Italian's has proved more enduring; and to say, as Mr. Pattison deliberately asserts, that "it was an unfortunate choice of vehicle when Shak-spere selected the sonnet form" (p. 42), seems clearly one of those instances where a critic simply criticises himself, marking his own limitations, not those of his author.

It is an easy transition from Italy to Mr. William W. Story, if indeed it be a transition at all. That perennial youthfulness of temperament, shown in so many ways by this accom plished artist, and forming a trait so agreeable in a man of sixty-four, was never more strikingly shown than in his little volume called 'He and She, or a Poet's Portfolio' (Houghton, Mif. flin & Co.). Both the verse and prose are very much such as he might have written in his exu. berant youth in Lowell's Pioneer, of which he and Lowell contributed, under various pseudonyms, so large a part of the table of contents. Mr. Story himself was perhaps the best American type of what may be called the Crichtonism of that period-the theory, namely, that a brilliant young man might, could, would, and should try his hand at everything. 'Pelbam' and 'Vivian Grey' were then still read, and the age of specialists had not begun. Not content with being lawyer, sculptor, and musician, Mr. Story experimented in painting, like Page, and in poetry, like Lowell; and while he did nothing very ill, he could not do everything well. We cannot find in this dainty volume anything that quite justifies its existence; yet many young people will relish it, though perhaps less vividly than their parents would have enjoyed it forty vears ago.

Neither Mr. Aldrich nor Mr. Whittier will win many added laurels by the thin volumes contain ing this year's harvest of verse. Yet they will lose none, and this for two bards so well established is perhaps enough. The greater part of Mr. Aldrich's book, 'Mercedes, and Later Lyrics' (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), is occupied by a dramatic sketch which is really very powerful. but which has the defect, quite unusual with this author, of presenting too unmixed a tragedy All the canons of criticism demand some relief. and the monotone here struck makes the work seem rather like a study for a drama than like the finished performance itself. Mr. Whittier's book, 'The Bay of Seven Islands, and other Poems' (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), gives us a few more of those versified New England legends of which we can never have too many. The aged poet has fulfilled the dream of his youth, and has become the Burns of his native region. having peopled the Merrimack and the Bay of Seven Islands with a race of ideal depizens as lasting as the imaginary clans mustered by Scott on Lanrick Mead. The shades of evening group themselves insensibly, but not sadly, over the poet's muse, and are touchingly expressed in a poem, "What the traveller said at sunset." The opening verse in particular has an image unusually daring for our moderate bard this night thrush being, as we take it, the veery, which he has elsewhere sung):

"The shadows grow and deepen round me, I feel the dew-fall in the air; The muezzin of the darkening thicket, I hear the night-thrush call to prayer," (P. 47.)

Mrs. Celia Thaxter, who always impresses one as being a spiritual child of Whittier, has collected her 'Poems for Children' in a handsome but feebly illustrated volume (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). The verses are sometimes over thoughtful for very young readers, and are sometimes weighted, like Whittier's, with a superfluous moral at the end; but they are graphic, wholesome, and so full of genuine American life as to be good nutriment for all children.

Mrs. Anagnos shows hereditary talent in her poems, 'Stray Chords' (Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co.). Her mother, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, has, perhaps, surpassed her in the condensed and finished utterance of a few poetic thoughts, as, for instance, in her "Rouge gagne"; but, on the other hand, the daughter escapes the turn for mysticism and abstruseness which mars most of the mother's poetic work, and which will forever prevent even the "Battle Hymn of the Republic "from being in a wide sense popular. Mrs. Anagnos has a dangerous facility of versification, but she has great purity and elevation of tone, and often shows real power of imagination. Among the poems which have most creative force we should select the following:

"THE NUN.

- Mouth, fair fount of frozen kisses; Eyes, sweet sepalch e of blisses; Brow, dear temple of dear joy; White vell, clouding all so coy— Wine to lee, and youth to age, Change upon thy lovely page.
- Spring flowers struggling o'er a tomb seem thy fitful smiles and bloom. Tender birds by Winter caught, sweetest buds by Winter taught Not to open, not to sing. For it never can be spring.
- Take me to that beaven of thine. Where the moonbeams palely shine, Where the moonbeams palely shine, Where the roses bloom but white, Where the stars are shy at night, Where the breazes dare not sigh, Where the heart must freeze and die—I will shudder, pleasure flee, If I may but worship thee." (P. 135.)

Mr. Denton's singular book, 'The Early Poetical Works of Frankliu E. Denton of Chardon, Ohio, author of the Glass Dwarf' (Cleveland, Ohio: Williams), seems rather like a series of strains from one of the half insane seers in 'The Bread-Winners' than like a serious production.

What else can we say to such passages as the following:

" HYMN TO THE SUN

O Sun, hell wandering up the firmament! God smiled! thou wert thou art a laugh of Him! Little an one of all the billion ghosts. That wail and storm around this whirling world in the delirium of consciousness. How can I hope my wingless syllables. Will ever reach the golden ear of thee! Thee who beheld the world travalled! beheld it occan robed, roaming a purple ball. Coruscant in the chrism of (by beams." (P. 20.)

"How sweet to toss the bridle from our feeling,
Although to mind and body it bodes till.
And from conception let our thoughts go reeling.
If they but be incongruous, at will.
For eachimation is our teeth revealing.
To have the lachrymal its liquor spill:
To be an April day, for illustration;
An antithetical exaggeration." (F. 176.)

Mr. Denton is yet but twenty three, and may possess talent; but not much is to be hoped for the future of a youth whose very sponsor and adviser, "A. G. R.," of Washington-presumably Mr. A. G. Riddle-selects for compliment, in his preface, such singular phrases as the

"I am a pinioned misery, Allana."

Perhaps Mr. Riddle would also commend the

"Earth is a gorgeous spouse soaked with divinity

The preposterous phraseology of Mr. Denton is that of rawness and youth; but the curious dialect of Mr. P. W. Norris in 'The Calumet of the Coteau, and Other Foetical Legends of the Border ' (Lippincott), forms really the most valuable part of his book, although it swamps his poetry, so to speak, in pigeon-English. author was for five years superintendent of the Yellowstone National Park, and a guide book to the park appears as an appendix to this volume, while the main portion is devoted to songs and rhymed narratives, often of the crudest description, but generally involving some local or historic if not poetic interest. A dozen pages of glossary will seem none too much to one who opens upon such a passage as the following:

Il la hi, you come to see,
Lo lode you want to be;
Chit woot sko kum, bold you come,
Mos mos, stupid to your doom,
Ab-sa ra ka, til-la-cume,
Que u-que u, lance and plume,
Min ne ke wa cannot save,
Min ne wa wa branches wave,
Kam-ooks gaunt around you glare,
Ka kaws cir-le in the air,
ty the blood of kindred slain,
Thine shall lance and faxot drain,
L-san tan ka, feel our ire,
Wa kan-sche-cha, in the fire," (P, 105.)

As if to show that neither Chio nor Idaho can monopolize abcouth phrases, we have in the choice type of Macmillan a specimen of English eccentricity in 'Poems and Lyrics, or the Joy of Earth, by George Meredith. If Mr. Matthew Arnold finds in Emerson's quaintnesses reason enough for setting him far below the smooth Longfellow as a poet-a judgment, to be sure, which does not command our sympathy-what will he say to such freaks of his own cultivated fellow-countrymen, who knock Pharisees on the head with such clumsy bludgeons as this son-

" A CERTAIN PEOPLE,

"A CERTAIN PEOPLE.

"As Puritans they prominently wax,
And none more kindly gives and takes, hard knocks.
Strong psaimic chanting, like to nasal cocks,
They join to thunderings of their hearty thwacks.
But naughtiness, with longery, not lacks
When Peace another door in them unlocks
Where conscience shows the eying of an ox
Grown duly apprehensive of an Axe.
Graceless they are when gone to filedousness,
Fearing the God they flout, the God they glut.
They need their plous exercises less
Than schooling in the Pleasures: fair belief
That these are devilish only to their thlef,
Charged with an Axe nigh on the occiput," (P. 170.)

It is pleasant to pass to the grace and sweetness of another volume of English authorship, the 'Indian Idylls' of Edwin Arnold (Roberts Bros.). Those who were disappointed in 'Pearls

of the Faith' may turn confidently to this new book to find in it companionship for his 'Light of Asia.' He now gives us versions of passages from the great Hindoo drama, the 'Mahabharata '; in "Savitri, or Love and Duty," we have an Oriental Alcestis-as exquisite a tribute as was ever paid to the strength and self-devotion of woman; and in "The Great Journey," a picture of sublime disinterestedness, high as the Christian doctrine, and far higher than the accustomed Christian practice. The work is appropriately dedicated to one of those who, in the Dial, first urged the Oriental Scriptures on the Englishreading world, Rev. William Henry Channing, Mr. Arnold's father-in-law.

Since the publication of so great a literature of Oriental translation made at first hand, within twenty-year-, books made at second band have lost much of their value. Rev. W. R. Alger's Poetry of the Orient '(Roberts Bros.) was one of the best of these, and will still no doubt find readers. Mr. Alger adds to this new edition some poems of his own, not Oriental in their character. Being a Unitarian clergyman, he of course writes poetry; but not so good, to our thinking, as that of his companion in that faith, Rev. John W. Chadwick, whose 'In Nazareth Town, and other Poems' (Roberts Bros.) contains many good things. One of the best has valuable local coloring, being a poem of Marblehead, called "Mugford's Victory."

Local coloring is to be found in very lively shape in 'Whispering Pines,' by John Henry Boner (New York: Brentano); and the few specimens which he gives of the plantation dialect will be likely to win more readers-in these days of 'Uncle Remus'-than the author's hymns or poems about external nature. The following, at least, has an irresistible ring and swing to it:

" CRISMUS TIMES IS COME.

" Wen de sheppuds watch de sheep on de plain of Befle-

Dey was 'stonished at de star dat went a swinging ober dem.

dem,
(Crismus times is come;)
Dey lean upon de sheppud crooks a shadin' ob der eyes,
(Crismus times is come.)
An' dey know de sun ob glory was a gwine for to rise,
(Crismus times is come.)
De wise men walk wid der heads ben' low
Twell dey hear a ban' o' music like dey nebber hear
befo'.

Defo', An' de angels come a singin' wid de stars in der han's An' der flamin' wings a-shinin' on de heathun lan's.

"De kings of de erf woke up dat night,
(Crismus times is come.)
An' der crowns is missible in come.)
But de po' man riz en tuck his ole hat down,
(Crismus times is come.)
But do po' man riz en tuck his ole hat down,
(Crismus times is come.)
An' hit look so flue dat he fought it wer a crown.
(Crismus times is come.)
Ole Jordan roll high en ole Jordan roll low,
An' de star stood still whar de folks had to go,
An' de angels flew away agin, a-leavin' arter dem
A blaze road from Juda to de new Jerusalem.

III.

"Den pile on de light 'ood en set aroun' de fire,
(Crismus times is come,)
Rosum up de ole bow en chune the banjer higher,
(Crismus times is come;)
Dar's no mo' coonin' ob de log in de night,
(Crismus times is come,)
O glory to de lam' fur de hallyluyer light,
(Crismus times is come,)
De Crismus possum am a-bakin', mighty snug,
So han' aroun' de tambler en de little yaller jug
Wid de co'ncob stopper, en de honey in de bowl,
An' a glory hallyluyer en a-bless yo' soul." (Pp. 106-7.)

Local coloring of a different fashion also abounds in the rather loose-jointed and ambling verses of Rev. C. Pelletreau, who writes in rhyme 'Reminiscences of the Seventh Regiment. N. G. S. N. Y., in State Camp, 1883 ' (Whittaker). In curious contrast with this is the essentially Pall-Mall flavor of 'The Poems of Frederick Locker' (White, Stokes & Allen). What is that imperceptible difference in flavor which makes Praed's vers de société still readable, after fifty years, while all other poetry of that class is like parched corn, which must be enjoyed while it is fresh and hot, or not at all ? Mr. Locker's, we must confess, has already lost its crisp-

A History of Art in Chaldea and Assyria. From the French of Georges Perrot and Charles Chipiez. Illustrated with 452 engravings in the text and 15 steel and colored plates. Translated by Walter Armstrong, B.A., Oxon. 2 vols. A. C. Armstrong & Son. 1884.

This second instalment of the translation of MM. Perrot and Chipiez's valuable and extended 'Histoire de l'Art dans l'Antiquité,' the first two volumes of which we noticed last year, will fully sustain the reputation of the authors for ability and fidelity in the task of gathering up the recent results of archæological research and arranging them in a connected series. They are thus producing a history of ancient art such as we have not before possessed. In this portion of their work it is shown that the ancient civilizations of the Tigris and the Euphrates were not less interesting or important than that of the valley of the Nile, notwithstanding that the remaining materials are less abundant, and some important facts less certainly known. In Chaldea are found no such records in sculpture of domestic life and employments as are found in Egypt; its graphic art being devoted chiefly to incidents of worship and sacrifice, to illustration of the military or hunting exploits of its royal personages, and to the realization of supernatural beings or symbolic creatures. The interpretation of Chaldæo-Assyrian inscriptions is, moreover, much less advanced than that of the Egyptian bieroglyphs. Nevertheless, by patient research and comparison, archæologists have succeeded in making out a good deal that was formerly obscure, and have thrown considerable light upon important problems.

Perhaps the most interesting and instructive portion of this part of the work is that which treats of the principles and general characteristics of Chaldeo-Assyrian architecture. This architecture, though, from the nature of the material (mostly sun-dried brick) to which the builder was restricted, exceedingly simple in its forms, is found to have possessed some features that have hither to been thought to be of more recent invention, and not to have employed others which have been widely attributed to it. Neither piers, columns, nor architraves, and consequently nothing like orders or hypostyle arrangements, were generally employed. It is true that simple forms of shaft, with base and capital, were occasionally used, but they did not form a part of the general constructive system, and our authors affirm that a sufficient account of that system might be given without mentioning them. It was a system in which void spaces bore but a small proportion to the solid construction, and in which there were no apertures except doors. The barrel-vault, however, if not also the dome, is found to have been in general use. All this shows that our former conceptions of Assyrian architecture have been largely fanciful and inaccurate. As lately as the year 1851 so excellent a scholar as Mr. James Fergusson, in his work on 'The Palaces of Nineveh and Persepolis Restored,' made free use of the column, on the principle of the hypostyle halls of Persepolis, and excluded the vault. Until recently the general belief, shared even by Müller, was that all the ancient modes of construction were those of the simple pillar and arcbitrave as employed by the Egyptians and the Greeks, and that to the Etruscans and Romans we owe the introduction of the arch and vault. But Mariette has proved that the principle of the arch was perfectly understood in Egypt in very remote antiquity, and we now find that it was not only known but systematically employed by the Assyrians-that it was, indeed, apparently the only means whereby they could roof their open spaces, possessing, as they did, neither large stones nor good timber.

The use of the dome is not so clearly made out as that of the barrel-vault. But the fact that domical structures are figured on some of the bas-reliefs, and that in a few instances fragments of pisé, having segmentally hollowed surfaces, have been found within now roofless square chambers, lends favor to the supposition that it was used. Moreover, the dome is constant in the palaces still in existence of the Parthian and Sassanid monarchs, which belong to an epoch midway between remote antiquity and the Græco-Roman period; and our authors suggest that possibly it may be discovered that ancient tradition helped to direct architecture into a new path in the last years of the Roman Empire. In this connection a class of buildings in Asia Minor is referred to, in which the dome is found resting on pendentives, from which it may not be wholly fanciful to suppose that the architects of St. Sophia were, in important particulars, but perpetuators of the principles established by the builders who wrought under Sargon and Nebuchadnezzar. In all such conjectures regarding derivation, however, it is easy to be carried too far. It may be just as probable that these architectural forms were invented independently at different epochs, and in different countries, in simple obedience to the conditions which called for them. Yet such derivations can often be securely traced, and even when they cannot, these striking similarities are highly interesting and instructive. Not the least so among those which our authors bring out, in what they call secondary forms, though the fact has been frequently remarked by others, is the likeness of one form of Assyrian capital to the Greek Ionic, and of another to the Corinthian. The carrying of shafts upon the backs of sculptured lions and griffins, so common with the mediæval Lombard builders, was common also in Assyria.

The beginnings of sculpture are more obscure in Chaldea and Assyria than in Egypt; but the oldest which is known exhibits, like the rest, a singular proclivity to copy nature. The study of Assyrian sculpture is shown to be especially interesting, not only because it created those anthropomorphic types which were adopted and perfected by the Greeks, but also because it established that principle of temperance in relief for which Greek sculpture became subsequently so remarkable. The Assyrian method had nothing in common with the Egyptian engraved process; nothing of that defining of contours by incised lines, or of modelling beneath the surrounding surface, which were such common practices with the Egyptian carver. There is, indeed, sometimes a slight reinforcing of contours by incision-as in the case of that wonderful wounded lioness in the British Museum; but this incision is never systematic, and the essential character of the work is always that of delicately modelled form rising gently from a flat field with no forced accents. The material used for sculpture in Mesopotamia was generally alabaster or limestone, the softness of which rendered freedom and incisiveness of execution natural: vet, as the authors remark, these qualities are never carried to excess. As far as his skill or his subject would permit, the Assyrian carver wrought his forms into lifelikeness with patience and care. His perception of nature in animals was remarkable. Indeed, there is no. thing in antique art comparable to them in this re. spect, as those remarkable reliefs of hunting scenes in London attest. The Greeks, with their finer and more mature skill, carved the horse, it s true, as no Assyrian had ever been able to

carve it; but other animals they were content to render, when they did so at all, in a very conventional way. The Assyrian, however, presents the borse, the wild ass, the lion, the dog, and other animals with an animation, and an expression of peculiar character in each, which have not been surpassed by artists of any time; and this notwithstanding the apparent fact that in Assyria, as in Egypt, sculpture was regarded primarily as a means of record. All this is set forth and illustrated with admirable justice, and in addition an interesting account is given of minor works in moulded and modelled clay, carved ivory and bronze, both cast and hammered.

Painting in these countries is shown to have been of the same elementary sort that was practised in Egypt, though it differed in minor ways from Egyptian painting. It was but a simple and frank kind of illumination, without any gradation of tint or modelling of form. For interiors the color was laid upon a surface of plaster, according to the usual ancient and mediæval manner of mural painting; but in situations exposed to the weather, recourse was had to the more durable method of enamelling. A very interesting account is given in the chapter on decoration of the varieties of enamelled bricks that were employed, and of the devices that were depicted upon them. In both sculpture and painting the Assyrian artist was prolific in the adaptation of natural forms, among the vast range of which were types, some of them borrowed from Egypt, that were after. wards adopted and amplified by the Greeks. Conspicuous among these is that running border consisting of alternately open and shut lotus flowers, which has supplied the motive for a great many subsequent designs. Thus to discover the origin of decorative types as well as of constructive forms, and to follow them through their successive transformations, finding what peculiar impress each race of men has put upon them, is one of the most instructive modes of study both of the fine arts and of man himself. It is the intelligent effort to do this for the ancient arts that gives this book its value. The only fault of importance which we find in it is that of the diffuseness to which we alluded in our former notice. A great many portions of the book are needlessly spun out, and there are many wearisome repetitions. The substance of the work might have been fully presented in very much less space.

The illustrations in the text do not in all cases compare favorably with those in the original. They are apparently photo-engravings from the original woodcuts; and they have that heavy and smutchy effect in the closely shaded parts which is a constant defect of mechanical engraving. Even the original illustrations are in some respects unsatisfactory. Those representing sculpture are generally poor, and some of them are decidedly bad. That of the wounded lioness, Fig. 80, for instance, conveys no adequate expression of the subtle delineation which the original carving exhibits, and it conveys the impression of something in very much higher relief. But the faults of the book are insignificant in comparison with its substantial worth. and we shall look with interest for the volumes which are to follow. It is, we believe, the only book thus far which by competent hands, and in the light of recent discoveries, endeavors, with adequate fulness, to follow the chain of thought and effort by which man has expressed through the fine arts his moral and spiritual aspirations.

Romance," and the naming, though ambitious, is not inappropriate. Against a background of court levity and scepticism, the hero stands out as phenomenally religious, and the incidents of the little story are not unromantic. The character of Mark is quaint and beautiful, but its tone of spiritual aspiration and purity would vibrate more strongly in the reader's heart were less jarring discord admitted in the environment. The book is unsatisfactory. One feels as if the author were amusing himself with a graceful sketch, rather than giving the product of his whole earnestness and best endeavor. This impression is perhaps unjust, but is likely to be produced where a writer's real sentiments cannot be clearly seen. In this story, despite the fact that the personages too often lose their characteristics to express, at convenient points, the author's train of thought, his opinions remain for the most part undiscoverable. There are fruitful suggestions-as, for instance, this from the conversation of the Princess Isoline with Mark: "I warn you never to join a partic. ular society which proposes as its object to serve God better than others." As may readily be inferred from what has been said, the book, though perhaps meant in part for children, is little suited to them, since much of it, while puzzling or meaningless to many, would be superfluous torment to those able to understand. The author says in the preface: "Should this little tale induce any one, at present ignorant of Stilling's 'Autobiography,' to read that book, they will forget any grudge they may have formed against

George Eliot: A Critical Study of Her Life, Writings, and Philosophy. By George Willis Cooke, Boston: Jas. R. Osgood & Co. 1883.

the present writer."

The Essays of "George Eliot." Complete, Collected and arranged, with an introduction on her "Analysis of Motives." by Nathan Sheppard. (Standard Library.) Funk & Wagnalls.

MR. COOKE's volume is not, properly speaking, a biography; it is rather a critical essay in which George Eliot's books and career are discussed incidentally. This, at least, is what he declares in his preface, but he has nevertheless gone pretty fully into biographical details. He has in fact undertaken to make his book very thorough, and if he has not succeeded in saying, has certainly made a conscientious attempt to say. what the French call the last word about his subject. While we should be loth to assert that Mr. Cooke endeavored to produce in his reader's mind a disagreeable impression of George Eliot, it is undeniable that he has in a sense done so; and this not merely through his disapproval of the tendency of her philosophical opinions, but by means of half-suggested criticisms upon her character. Thus, while we have a defence of her relations with Mr. Lewes, and a long account of ber conjugal devotion to him, this, followed as it is by a very laconic statement of the fact that Mr. Lewes's death was, after an extremely short interval, followed by a second marriage, produces the impression that, after all, the less that is said about George Eliot's matrimonial affairs the better. In the same way, in referring to her casual remark about criticism and critics, that "the floods of nonsense printed in the form of critical opinions seem to me a chief curse of our time, a chief obstacle to true culture," and that the habit of forming "opinions" about books is of doubtful utility, he adds, "It is not to be forgotten, however, that George Eliot bad done much critical work before she became a novelist, and that much of it was of a keen and cutting nature"-a reminder chiefly calculated to

make us smile with a sense of superiority to such weak inconsistency. Mr. Cooke's statement of the nature of George Eliot's philosophy of life as it is propounded in her writings is fair enough. It was, as he says, altruism, or selfrenunciation for the good of Lumanity. The altruism she got from Christianity; its new object she got from Comte and the positivists. In the Christian scheme, the motive for unselfishness is supposed to be a desire to be at one with God, and to do His will. In hers there is no God, no salvation of the individual soul, no hope of immortality; but the love of humanity takes the place of the love of the Almighty. But this is to the majority of mankind a very unsatisfactory substitute. It makes few converts, and to most people is hardly intelligible or appreciable. What is Humanity, that we should sacrifice ourselves to it! Are we not ourselves, in some cases, as good as the Etre Humain, and who is to decide between It and us, in case of doubt ! All this amounts to saying that George Eliot bad no real system of philosophy at all, though she tried all her life to have one. Her discovery that self-renunciation and devotion to others is the secret of the nearest approach to happiness that man can make, is no more novel and startling than that made by Mill, that the direct pursuit of happiness defeats itself.

One great cause of the deep interest excited by her books, however, was undoubtedly the fact that she seemed to be able to reconcile the altruism of Christianity with speculations which led in a very different direction. Her books took a powerful hold upon the conscience of the public, both in England and here, and indeed she was the last of the great novelists who wrote with a distinct moral rather than a literary purpose. She carried the study of character to a point far beyond that reached by any of her predecessors, and towards the end of her career gave herself up to psychological analysis in a way that no other writer, of either sex. had ever done before. Mr. Cooke insists that had George Eliot believed in the immortality of the soul the tone of her novels would have been less sembre, and productive of more lasting good; but this is one of the remarks which give his book at times a tract-like flavor. It is as difficult to imagine George Eliot a believer in the ordinary Christian scheme of salvation as it is to think of Voltaire as an Episcopalian, or Cicero as a Methodist. In dealing with so great a mind as that of George Eliot the important thing is, to abandon at the outset all attempts to measure it by ordinary bard and fast standards.

It is as a novelist and reader of the human heart, not as a philosopher, that the world seems most likely to keep in reverence and preserve the memory of George Eliot. Coming after Dickens and Thackeray, she took their place, and became as interesting a literary figure as either of them. In some respects she was even superior to them. The mine which she worked was apparently inexhaustible. Although her last novels, as literary performances, are inferior to her first-the level of 'Silas Marner' and 'Adam Bede' was indeed one which it was almost impossible to maintain-they were works of nearly as great human interest, and they were works bearing the signature of living and vivid genius. She belonged to that great order of minds which do not fade or shrivel as they grow old, but remain vigorous and growing to the end. Dickens and Thacke ray, mighty as they were in their day, ended by producing what were little better than feeble echoes of their earlier books. George Eliot never did this. She had always something new to tell, something original to report, some new problems of character and destiny to analyze.

The Little Schoolmaster Mark. By J. H. Shorthouse. Macmillan & Co.

This work is called by its author "A Spiritual

In the perennial freshness of her mind, and her capacity of giving what, in her somewhat overworked scientific dialect, would have been called always new and unexpected "reactions," she was a wonder to the last. Minds of this order are rare among men. Almost invariably, the rule is that a genius first delivers his message, and then, parrot-like, repeats it, with ever-decreasing force, till its echo character is detected and held up to ridicule. Only a few men, and still fewer women, appear in a century who are exempt from this law, and appear to have, as long as life lasts, some immortal, intellectual spring which saves them from the wear and tear of time. It is perhaps not unnatural that to some of these the dream of a Grand Etre Humain should have proved so attractive, for they unconsciously saw in it, as we all must do, the reflection of themselves.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

A Day in Athens with Socrates: Translations from the Protagoras and the Republic of Plato. Charles Scribner's Sons. 50 cents.

Adams, W. E. Our American Cousins: being Personal Impressions of the People and Constitutions of the United States. Lonon: Waiter Scott.

Ames, D. T. Ames's Compendium of Practical and Ornamental Penmanship. The Author. \$5.

Ashton, J. Humor, Wit and Satire of the Seventeenth Century. J. W. Bouton.

Baker, Sir S. W. True Tales for My Grandsons. Macmillan & Co. \$150.

Beifield, Dr. W. T. On the Relations of Micro-Organisms to Disease. Chicago: W. T. Keener.

Bits of Precious Ore: F. W. Robertson, F. W. Faher, Geo. \$1 40.

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Herbert, Jeremy Taylor. 4 vols. A. D. F. Handolph & Co. 81 40. Sound Bodies for Our Boys and Girls. Harber & Brothers.
Brinton, Dr. B. G. Aboriginal American Authors, and their Productions. Philadelphia: No. 115 South 7th

their Productions. Philadelphia: No. 118 South 7th Street.
Buchanan, R. Annan Water: a Romance. Harper & Brothers, 20 cents. Craigin, Mrs. L. T.
Lothrop R. M. To Leeward: a Novel. Boston: D. Lothrop R. M. To Leeward: a Novel. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
Dyer, Rev. T. F. T. Folk-Lore of Shaksperc. Harper & Brothers.

English Lyrics. The Parchment Library. D. Appleton & Co. §1 25.

Ewing, Juliana H. A Week Spent in a Glass Pond. R. Worthington.

Ferret, L. The Executioner's Revenge. Translated from the French. Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co. §1 00.

Field, Rev. H. M. Among the Holy Hills. Charles Scriuner's Sons. §1 50.

Fleshes from "Oulda." G. W. Carleton & Co. Gradle, Dr. H. Bacteria and the Germ Theory of Discase. Chicago: W. T. Keener.

Hale, Rev. E. E. Our Christmas in a Palace: a Traveller's Story. Funk & Wagnalls. §1 00.

Hail, I. H. A Critical Bibliography of the Greek New Testament as Published in America. Philadelphia: Pickwick & Co. §1 25.

Hamiln, Marie C. W. Legends of Le Detroit. Detroit Thorndike Nourse.

Hand-Book of Winter Resorts. D. Appleton & Co. 50 cents.

Hannah Tarne: a Story. Macmillan & Co. §1 25.

Hand-Book of Winter Resorts. D. Appleton & Co. 50 cents.
Hannah Tarne: a Story. Macmillan & Co. §1 25.
Haynes, E. J. The Fairest of Three. A Story. American News Company. 50 cents.
Henry Irving, Actor and Manager: a Criticism of a Critic's Criticism. George Routledge & Sons. 50 cents.
Hunt, N. C. The Poetry of Other Lands. Philadelphia: Porter & Coates. §2.
Skelding, Susie B. * Howers from Hill and Dale: Poems arranged and illustrated. White, Stokes & Allen. §3 50.

Skelding, Susie B. A Handful of Blossoms. White, Stokes & Allen. \$1 50.

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